Meet Akira Nanae.

Nanae was the first Hollywood leading man from Japan to win the "Best Actor" award by the Academy

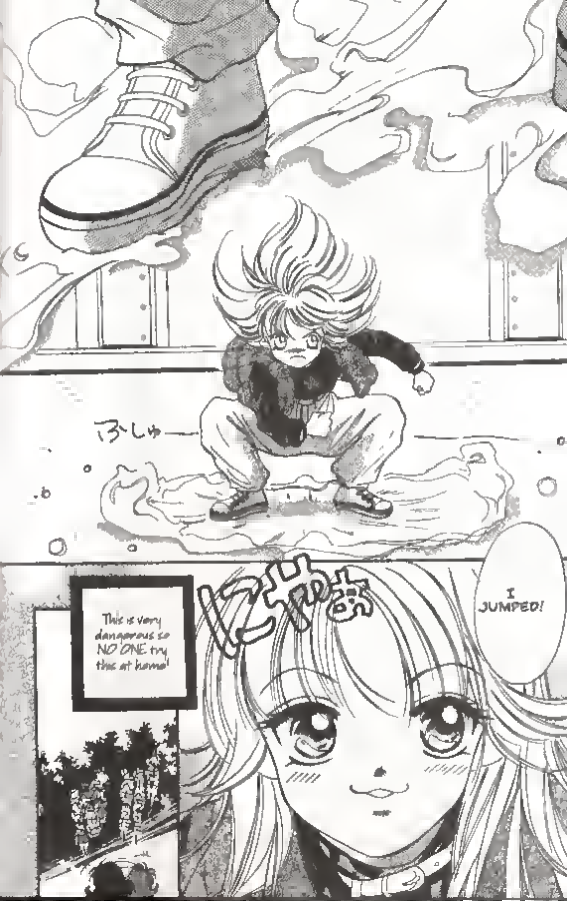
But while touring to promote one of his movies, his plane crashed and he was tragically killed.

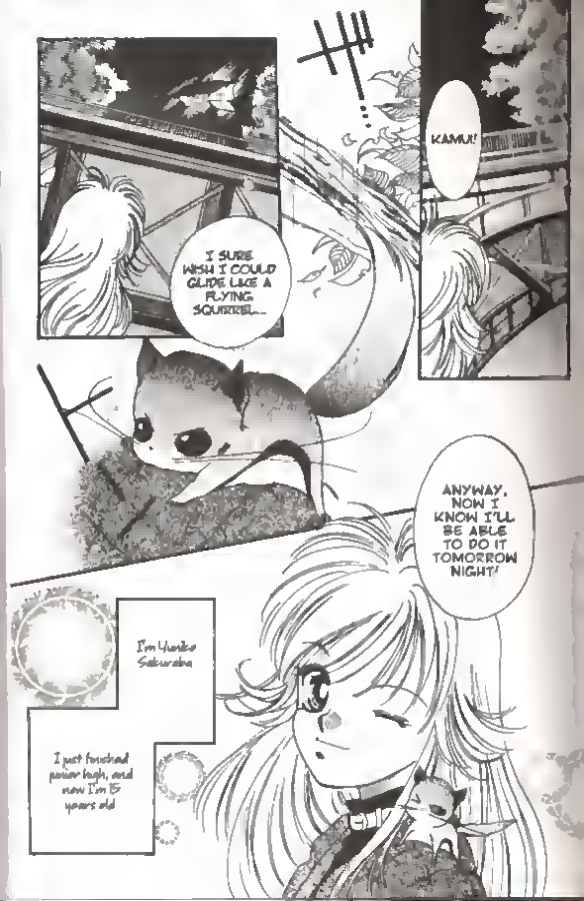
Nanae received the Academy Award when he was just 25 years old, but after his death all of his belongings were scattered. His possessions were stolen by feverish fans, and his survivors were left with almost nothing.

WILD☆
ワイルド
ACT
アクト
1
高田りえ
RIE TAKADA

THIS IS REALLY HIGH...
KANUI, IF I DIE HERE I WANT YOU TO MAKE A NICE HOME IN THE WOODS AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.
GULP

DEAR GOD, IF I DIE, I'D LIKE YOU TO INTRODUCE ME TO AKIRA NANAE, PLEASE. AMEN.


ぼしゅ—
I JUMPED!
This is very dangerous so NO ONE try this at home!


I SURE WISH I COULD GLIDE LIKE A FLYING SQUIRREL...
KAMUI!
ANYWAY, NOW I KNOW I'LL BE ABLE TO DO IT TOMORROW NIGHT!
I'm Yuriko Sakurabe
I just finished junior high, and now I'm 15 years old

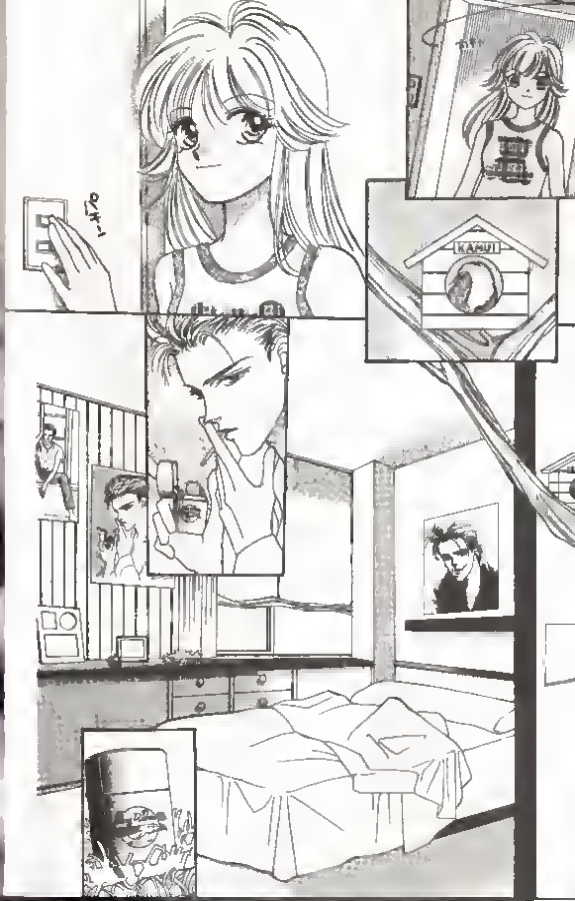
Why a theatre company, you might ask.
I don't have a father. And my mother's sick. She's been in the hospital for a long, long time
So right now I live in an apartment by myself. It's a REALLY nice place! But I'm still in the care of the Theatre Company UAT!
Because, before my mom got sick, she used to be an actress there
MORNING, MOM!
YUNI!
ARE YOU UP YET? YOU SLEPT ALL DAY, DIDN'T YOU?

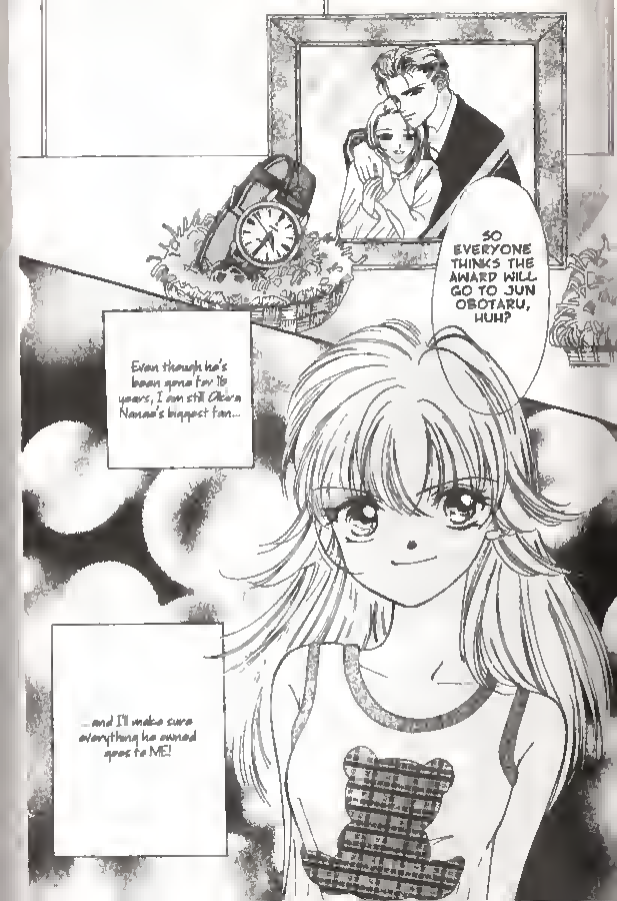
*UAT stands for Unusual Actors Town
(Of course, it's a fictional theatre group!)

WHEN HE DIED, HIS FANS RANSACKED HIS CAR AND HOUSE..
EVEN HIS TOMBSTONE WAS SCRAPED COMPLETELY OFF!
IT'S BEEN 10 YEARS SINCE HE DIED, BUT AKIRA NANAE IS A STAR THAT WILL BURN FOREVER
HIS "BEST ACTOR" AWARD MUST BE WORTH THOUSANDS.. OR EVEN MILLIONS TO TRUE FANATICS!
See the Winners Announced Tonight!
The GOLD ACADEMY Grand Awards Show!
Will the Man of the Hour be
Jun ohotera?!
Don't read it aloud!
MUST YOU ALWAYS INSIST ON PARADING AROUND IN YOUR UNDERWEAR?
It's not bubbles at all!
MORNING, SANAE!
WHAT KIND OF NAME IS THAT?
Is it say "Ohotera"?
On the Gold Academy
I MEAN, IT MUST BE THE MOST VALUABLE OF ALL NANAE'S POSSESSIONS!
HE'S GONNA WIN THE SAME STATUE AKIRA NANAE WON FOR BEST ACTOR SO LONG AGO AMAZING WUH?

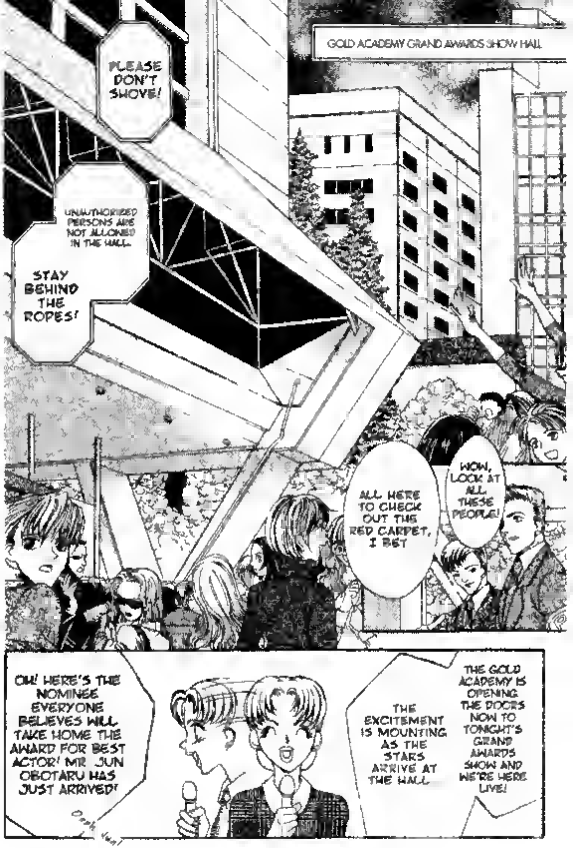
HELLO--IT'S RYU EBA! AHH, JUST HEARING HIS NAME PUTS ME IN A SWEET TRANCE...
WHO'S ROO EVA??
Because he's now a distracted maid.
WELL, IT'S HIS PARENTS' DECISION.
After all, they were stars in their time, too.
BUT IF IT WAS UP TO ME, I'D GIVE IT TO RYU EBA INSTEAD! WITHOUT A DOUBT!
SO THEY'RE GIVING IT TO THAT GUY?
Look, there's a picture of him, too
THIS YEAR IN THE BIOGRAPHY 'ALL BY MYSELF' HE PLAYED THE PART OF A NOVELIST FROM 14 TO 28 YEARS OLD! AT FIRST GLANCE, YOU CAN'T TELL HIS AGE. BUT HE'S ACTUALLY 17
CRITICS ARE RAVING ABOUT HIM, SAYING HE'S THE "NEW NANAE"!
SAY WHAAAT?
HE IS NOT EVEN ALMOST AS COOL AS THE REAL NANAE!
OOPS!

IT'S JUST PLAIN RUDE, COMPARING AKIRA NANAE TO SOME B-MOVIE BOY.
HONESTLY!
A GUY MAKES ONE GOOD MOVIE AND PEOPLE ACT LIKE HE CAN EVEN COMPARE.
...YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HIS MOVIES! DON'T CALL MY IZYU KUN A "B-MOVIE BOY"!
SPEAKING OF RUDE, YUN!
WELL ANYWAY, I HAVE TO GET TO THE THEATRE...
...FOR THE UAT PERFORMANCE AT GINZA!
THANKS FOR THE FOOD!
UAT Theatre Performance

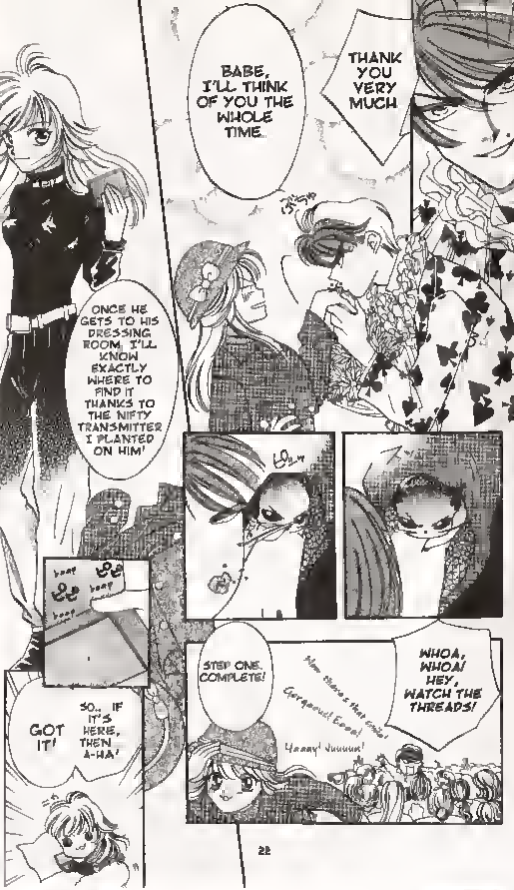

KAMUI


SO EVERYONE THINKS THE AWARD WILL GO TO JUN OBOTARU, HUH?
Even though he's been gone for 18 years, I am still Okiru Nanao's biggest fan...
...and I'll make sure everything he owned goes to ME!

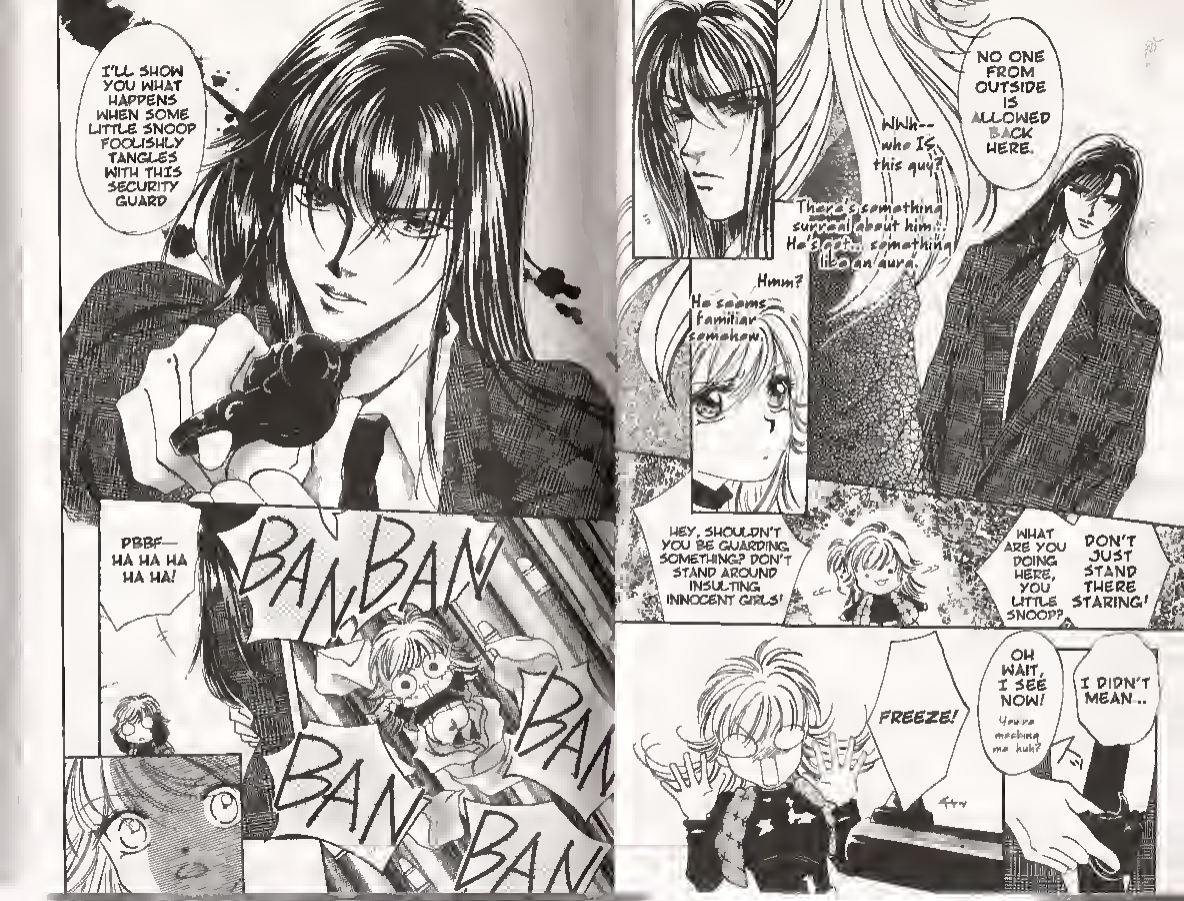
STAY IN HERE SO YOU WON'T GET TRAMPLED, KAMU.
JUN OBOTARU!!
IT'S ME!
I THINK I WOULD'VE GIVEN THE AWARD TO THAT RYU EBA, TOO, BUT.
...EITHER WAY, IT'S MINE IN THE END!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO!
GREAT LOOK AT THESE OLD LADIES SCREAMING FOR ME...
YOU GO GET THAT AWARD, JUN! WOO!
I BROUGHT THESE FLOWERS FOR YOU, JUN, DARLING!
SINCE YOU CAN'T TAKE ME IN WITH YOU, PLEASE TAKE THEM INSTEAD...ALL THE WAY TO YOUR DRESSING ROOM!
OOOH! JUN!

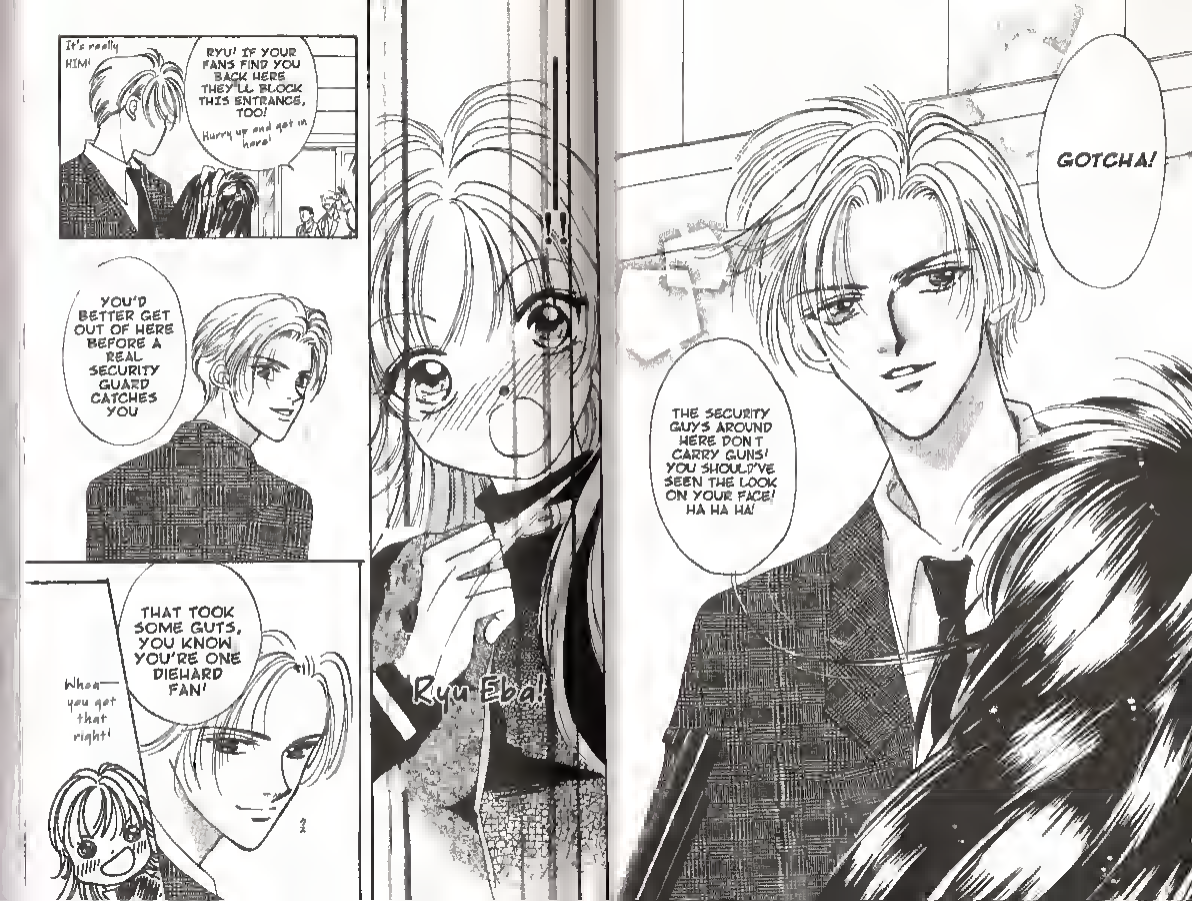

GOLD ACADEMY GRAND AWARDS SHOW HALL
PLEASE DON'T SHOVE!
UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE HALL.
STAY BEHIND THE ROPES!
ALL HERE TO CHECK OUT THE RED CARPET, I BET
WOW, LOOK AT ALL THESE PEOPLE!
OH! HERE'S THE NOMINEE EVERYONE BELIEVES WILL TAKE HOME THE AWARD FOR BEST ACTOR! MR. JUN OBOTARU HAS JUST ARRIVED!
Oooh, Jun!
THE EXCITEMENT IS MOUNTING AS THE STARS ARRIVE AT THE HALL.
THE GOLD ACADEMY IS OPENING THE DOORS NOW TO TONIGHT'S GRAND AWARDS SHOW AND WE'RE HERE LIVE!

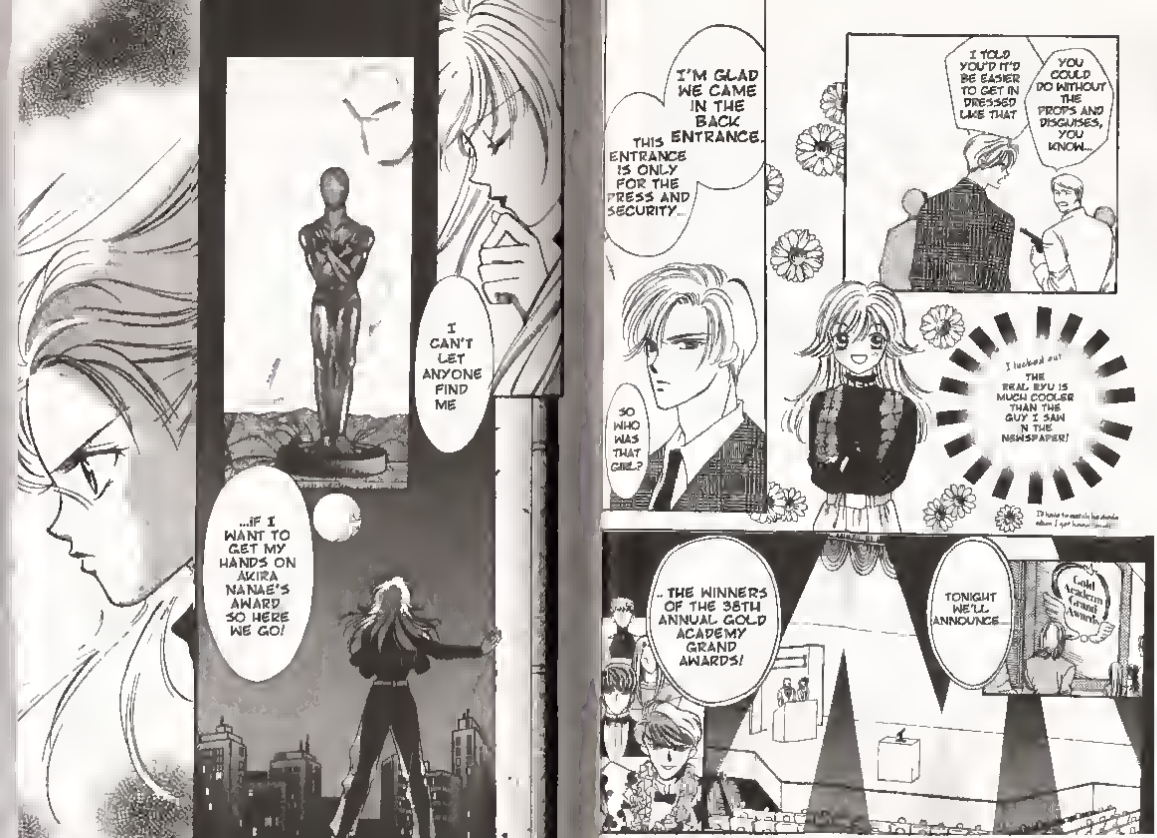
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, KAMUI
HUH?


ONCE HE GETS TO HIS DRESSING ROOM, I'LL KNOW EXACTLY WHERE TO FIND IT THANKS TO THE NIFTY TRANSMITTER I PLANTED ON HIM!
BABE, I'LL THINK OF YOU THE WHOLE TIME.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
beep beep beep
GOT IT!
SO... IF IT'S HERE, THEN A-HA!
STEP ONE, COMPLETE!
WHOA, WHOA! HEY, WATCH THE THREADS!
Now, there's that smile!
Gorgeous! Exotic!
Yummy! Yuuuuu!

DARN! SECURITY?!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER THERE?
WHOA!
TO BE SURE..
I COULD DO THIS
THIS FENCE IS THE REASON I HAD TO PRACTICE JUMPING FROM THAT BRIDGE

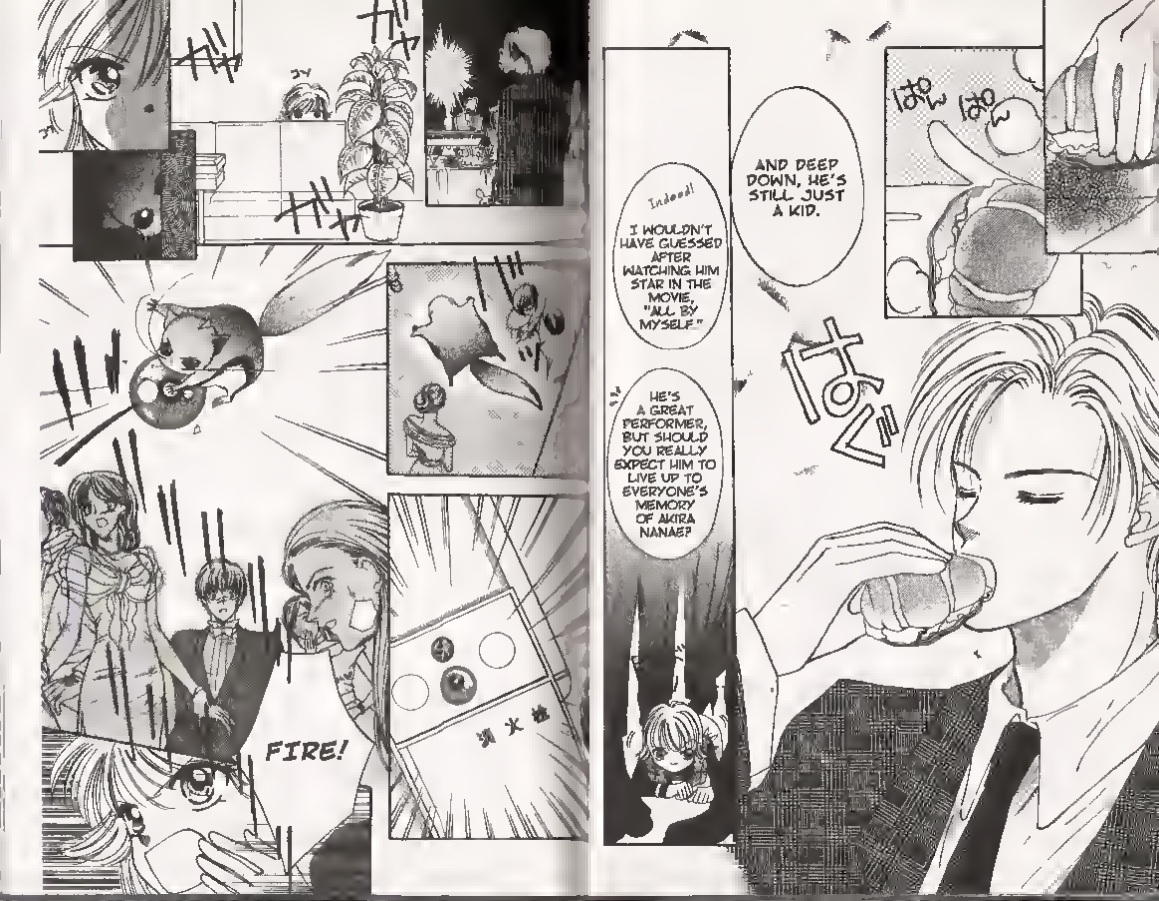

I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SOME LITTLE SNOOP FOOLISHLY TANGLES WITH THIS SECURITY GUARD
PBBF— HA HA HA HA HA!
BAN BAN BAN BAN
NO ONE FROM OUTSIDE IS ALLOWED BACK HERE.
WWh-- who IS this guy?
There's something surreal about him... He's got... something like an aura.
Hmm? He seems familiar somehow.
HEY, SHOULDN'T YOU BE GUARDING, SOMETHING? DON'T STAND AROUND INSULTING INNOCENT GIRLS!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, YOU LITTLE SNOOP?
DON'T JUST STAND THERE STARING!
FREEZE!
OH WAIT, I SEE NOW! You're mocking me huh?
I DIDN'T MEAN..

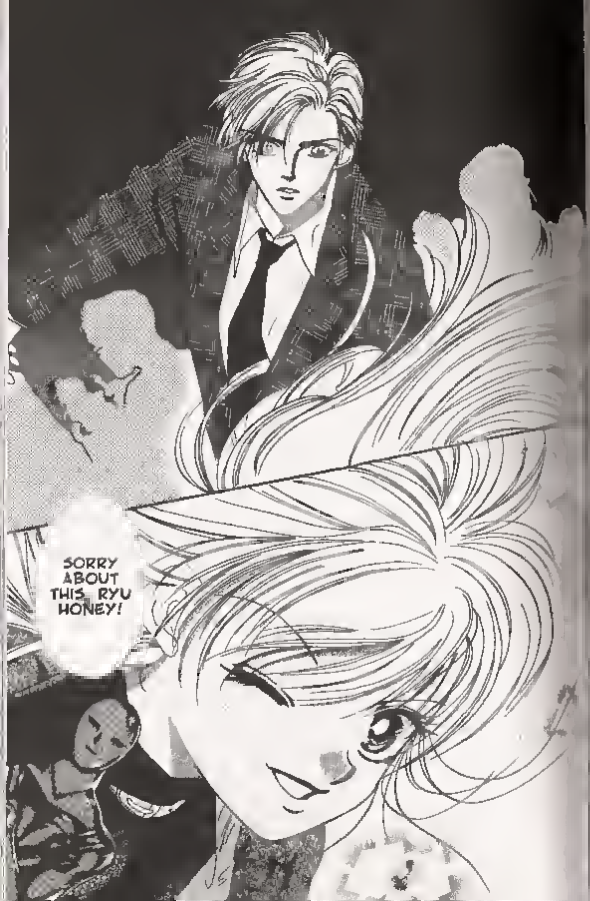

It's really HIM!
RYU! IF YOUR FANS FIND YOU BACK HERE THEY'LL BLOCK THIS ENTRANCE, TOO!
Hurry up and get in here!
YOU'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE A REAL SECURITY GUARD CATCHES YOU
THAT TOOK SOME GUTS, YOU KNOW. YOU'RE ONE DIEHARD FAN!
Whoa— you get that right!
!!
Ryu Eba!
GOTCHA!
THE SECURITY GUYS AROUND HERE DON'T CARRY GUNS! YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE! HA HA HA!


I CAN'T LET ANYONE FIND ME
...IF I WANT TO GET MY HANDS ON AKIRA NANAE'S AWARD SO HERE WE GO!
I'M GLAD WE CAME IN THE BACK ENTRANCE.
THIS ENTRANCE IS ONLY FOR THE PRESS AND SECURITY...
SO WHO WAS THAT GIRL?
I TOLD YOU'D IT'D BE EASIER TO GET IN DRESSED LIKE THAT
YOU COULD DO WITHOUT THE PROPS AND DISGUISES, YOU KNOW...
I looked out THE REAL RYU IS MUCH COOLER THAN THE GUY I SAW IN THE NEWSPAPER!
.. THE WINNERS OF THE 38TH ANNUAL GOLD ACADEMY GRAND AWARDS!
TONIGHT WE'LL ANNOUNCE
Gold Academy Grand Awards

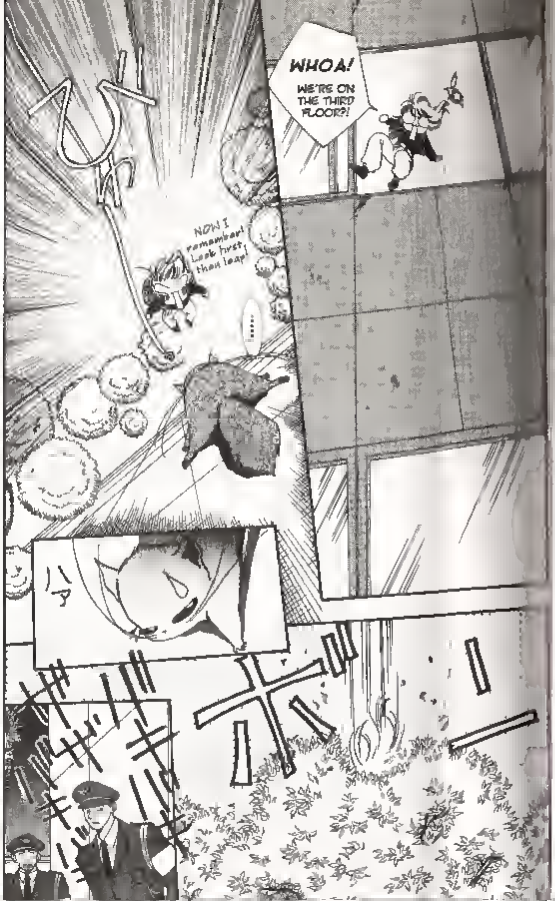
NO WAY! THAT ARTICLE WAS TOTALLY WRONG!
THE NEWSPAPER SAID THAT JUN WOULD WIN FOR SURE!
!!
CONGRAT-ULATIONS, MR EBA!
RYU EBA?!
Please join us on stage!
HE WAS NOMINATED FOR A VERY UNEXPECTED AND OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE THIS YEAR
And I myself thought he'd take this award
A-HA! A MOST DESERVING YOUNG MAN!
THIS YEAR'S GOLD ACADEMY AWARD WINNER FOR BEST MALE ACTOR IS...
THAT BRINGS US TO THIS YEAR'S GOLD ACADEMY AWARD FOR BEST ACTOR AND THE WINNER IS...
- THE BRILLIANTLY PORTRAYED 14-TO-28-YEAR-OLD STAR, WHO IN REAL LIFE IS ONLY 17...
MR. RYU EBA!

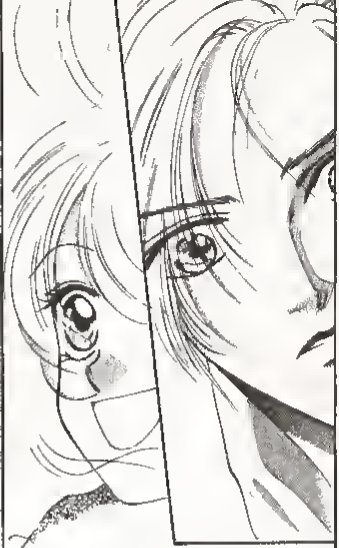
ACTUALLY, I THINK I'D RATHER WE NOT DO ANOTHER FILM TOGETHER.
JUST HEARING THE NAME AKIRA NANAE MAKES ME SICK TO MY STOMACH!
WHO KNOWS, BUT YOU DID CALL HIM NANAE, AFTER ALL...
WHAT'S WITH HIM?!
I KNOW HE REALLY HATES BEING COMPARED TO NANAE
KAMUI, PULL THE TRANSMITTER OUT OF THE BOUQUET.
OKAY, CHANGE OF PLANS!
PLEASE SHARE A WORD WITH US ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT ACCEPTING AKIRA NANAE'S AWARD
CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING THE YOUNGEST WINNER OF THIS AWARD
LET'S GO BACK THE WAY WE CAME IN BEFORE THE CEREMONY IS OVER
LOOKS LIKE GETTING WHAT I WANT TONIGHT MIGHT BE A LITTLE HARDER THAN I THOUGHT!
I'M HOPING OUR NEXT FILM TOGETHER WILL BE...
TO YOUR DIRECTOR AND YOU, RYU YOUR PERFORMANCE WAS UNPRECEDENTED!
CONGRATS!
YES, HE TRULY IS THE "NEW NANAE!" HA HA HA!

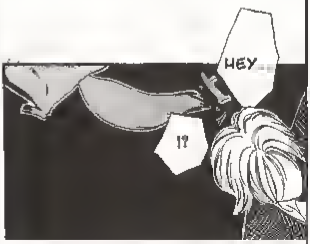

Indeed!
I WOULDN'T HAVE GUESSED AFTER WATCHING HIM STAR IN THE MOVIE, "ALL BY MYSELF."
HE'S A GREAT PERFORMER, BUT SHOULD YOU REALLY EXPECT HIM TO LIVE UP TO EVERYONE'S MEMORY OF AKIRA NANAE?
AND DEEP DOWN, HE'S STILL JUST A KID.
ぱくぱく
ぱく
FIRE!
消火栓


SORRY ABOUT THIS, RYU HONEY!

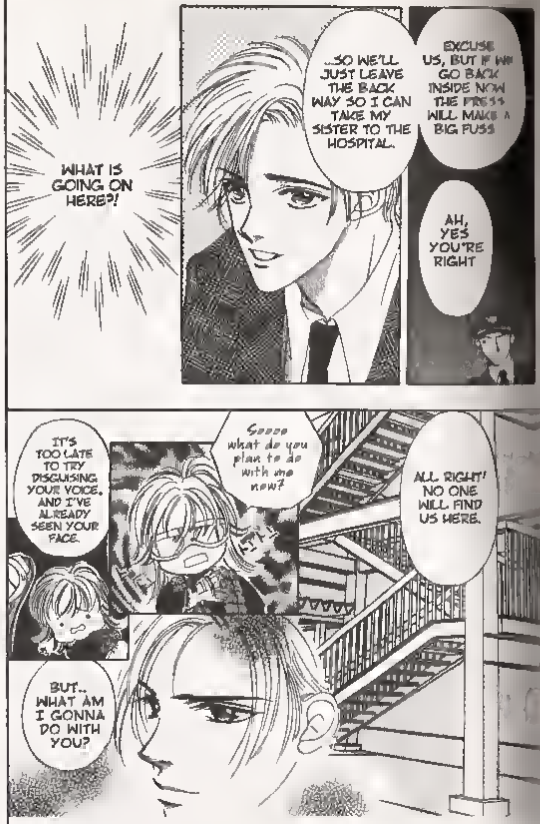
EEEEKK!
NOW'S MY CHANCE!


WHOA!
WE'RE ON THE THIRD FLOOR?!
NOW I remember! Look first, then leap!
!!




HEY...
!?

THANK GOODNESS! WHEN YOU FELL FROM THAT WINDOW...
I THOUGHT FOR SURE YOU'D BE KILLED!!
がばっ!!
What?
MR. EBA, YOU KNOW THIS GIRL?
YES - SHE'S MY SISTER.
SAY WHAT?
HANAKO
OH, MR EBA!!
Huh?
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
OOOWWW!!
BOOM!
SHOOT! I'M CAUGHT...
WAIT A MINUTE! SHE'S GOT AN AWARD STATUE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT, HUH?!

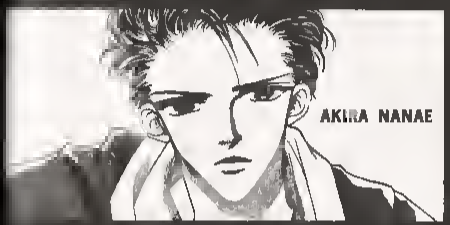

WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?!
...SO WE'LL JUST LEAVE THE BACK WAY SO I CAN TAKE MY SISTER TO THE HOSPITAL.
EXCUSE US, BUT IF WE GO BACK INSIDE NOW THE PRESS WILL MAKE A BIG FUSS
AH, YES YOU'RE RIGHT
IT'S TOO LATE TO TRY DISGUISING YOUR VOICE. AND I'VE ALREADY SEEN YOUR FACE.
Soooo what do you plan to do with me now?
ALL RIGHT! NO ONE WILL FIND US HERE.
BUT.. WHAT AM I GONNA DO WITH YOU?

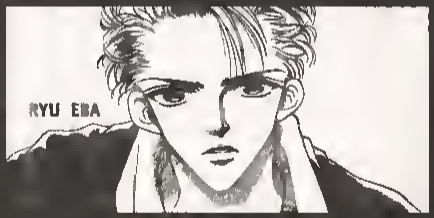
WHEN THE FIRE ALARM WENT OFF, SHE FORGOT WE WERE ON THE THIRD FLOOR AND TRIED TO ESCAPE OUT THE WINDOW!
SHE GETS SO PANICKY SOMETIMES...
IF YOU CAN'T BEAT HIM, JOIN HIM!
WAAAH! OH, RYU, THE FIRE ALARM WENT OFF AND I WAS SO SCARED! AAHHH...
IT'S A GOOD THING THAT TREE BROKE YOUR FALL, YOUNG LADY...
IT'S OKAY IN FACT, THE ALARM STARTLED US, TOO!
THERE, THERE NOW. IT'S ALL RIGHT.
Waaaaah

JUST WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
ISN'T THAT MY LINE?
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER TO ME ANYWAY.
IF THIS LITTLE STATUE IS ALL YOU WANT, I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU SOON ENOUGH. BUT IN THE MEANTIME, LET'S BE FRIENDS, HUH?

HA HA HA! JUST KIDDING! THERE'S THAT LOOK AGAIN!
JEEZ! THIS GUY!
YOU HURT YOUR LEGS BACK THERE, SO I KNOW YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY!
SO I CAN DO WHATEVER NAUGHTY THINGS THAT COME TO MIND, EH?
OH MY GOSH, THIS GUY'S A—
YOU KNOW, THIS IS MY FIRST TIME...
...CATCHING A THIEF.

He'll just GIVE me the award, he says? And now he wants to be FRIENDS?!
What is this guy thinking?


AKIRA NANAE

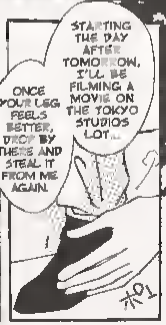

RYU EBA

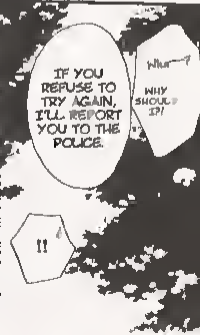
WHAT IS WITH YOU?!
EEEYAAH!
OH!
Hm?
YOU MAY HAVE CAUGHT ME, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN JUST PUT YOUR HANDS ALL OVER ME!
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOUR LEG IS BROKEN

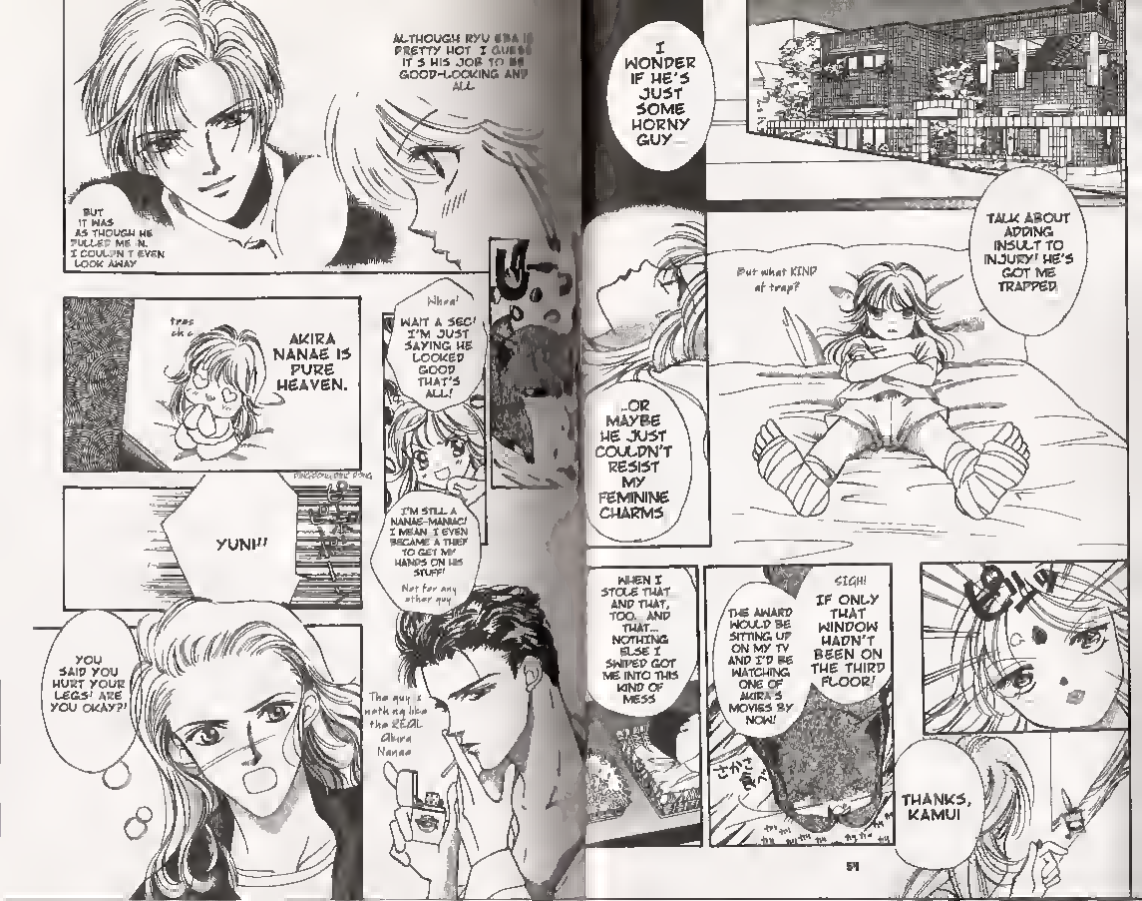
THE AWARD WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU AND SO WILL I
COME AND GET IT!

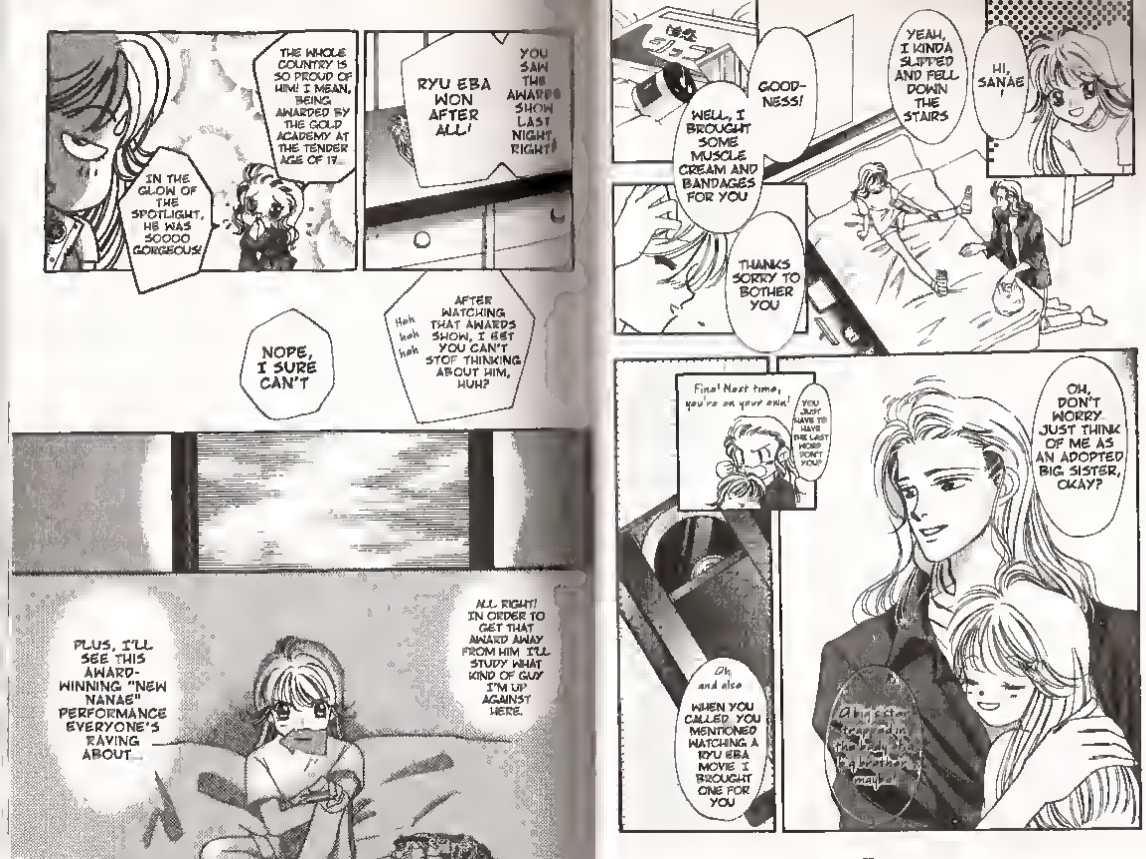
I WANT TO SEE YOU TAKE THIS FROM ME ONE MORE TIME...
...LIKE YOU DID BACK AT THE AWARDS HALL.
IF YOU CAN GET IT AWAY FROM ME AGAIN, THEN IT'S ALL YOURS.
Is he for real?

WE'RE ALL SET THEN


ONCE YOUR USG PEELS BETTER, DROP BY THERE AND STEAL IT FROM ME AGAIN.
STARTING THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW, I'LL BE FILMING A MOVIE ON THE TOKYO STUDIOS LOT...

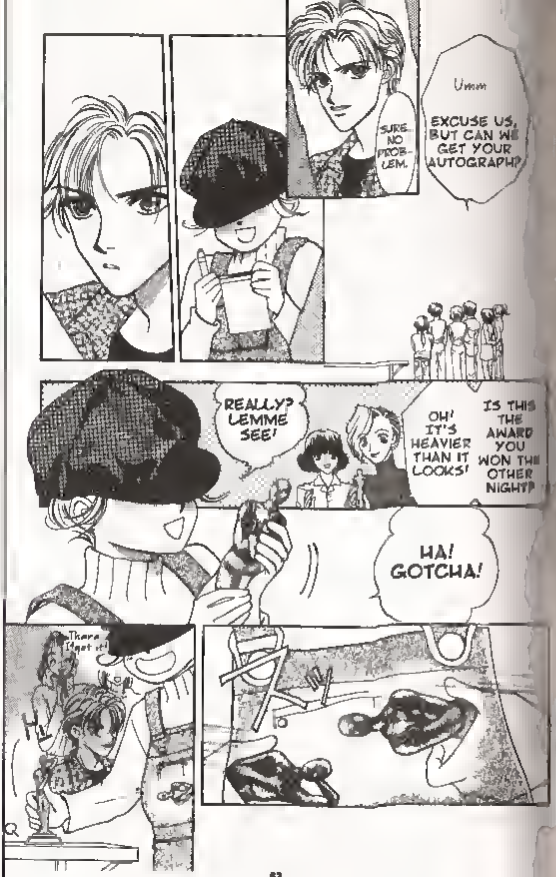

IF YOU REFUSE TO TRY AGAIN, I'LL REPORT YOU TO THE POLICE.
What—?
WHY SHOULD I?!
!!

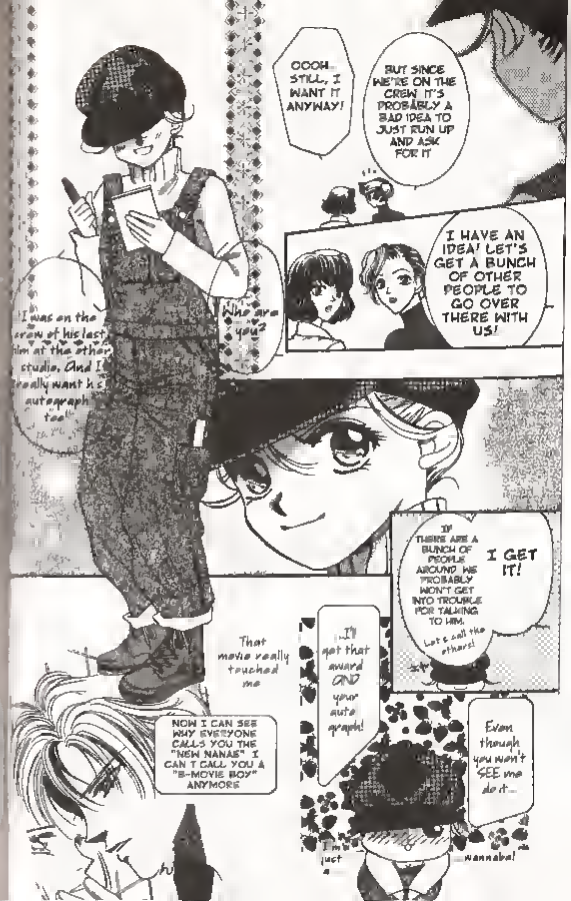

ALTHOUGH RYU-OBA IS PRETTY HOT, I GUESS IT'S HIS JOB TO BE GOOD-LOOKING AND ALL.
BUT IT WAS AS THOUGH HE PULLED ME IN. I COULDN'T EVEN LOOK AWAY.
I WONDER IF HE'S JUST SOME HORNY GUY—
...OR MAYBE HE JUST COULDN'T RESIST MY FEMININE CHARMS.
But what KIND of trap?
TALK ABOUT ADDING INSULT TO INJURY! HE'S GOT ME TRAPPED.
AKIRA NANAE IS PURE HEAVEN.
Whoa!
WAIT A SEC! I'M JUST SAYING, HE LOOKED GOOD. THAT'S ALL!
I'M STILL A NANAE-MANIAC! I MEAN, I EVEN BECAME A THIEF TO GET MY HANDS ON HIS STUFF!
Not for any other guy!
YUNI!!
YOU SAID YOU HURT YOUR LEGS! ARE YOU OKAY?!
The guy is nothing like the REAL Akira Nanae.
WHEN I STOLE THAT AND THAT, TOO, AND THAT... NOTHING ELSE I SWIPED GOT ME INTO THIS KIND OF MESS.
SIGH!
IF ONLY THAT WINDOW HADN'T BEEN ON THE THIRD FLOOR!
THE AWARD WOULD BE SITTING UP ON MY TV AND I'D BE WATCHING ONE OF AKIRA'S MOVIES BY NOW!
THANKS, KAMUI


THE WHOLE COUNTRY IS SO PROUD OF HIM! I MEAN, BEING AWARDED BY THE GOLD ACADEMY AT THE TENDER AGE OF 17...
IN THE GLOW OF THE SPOTLIGHT, HE WAS SOOOO GORGEOUS!
YOU SAW THE AWARDS SHOW LAST NIGHT, RIGHT?
RYU EBA WON AFTER ALL!
NOPE, I SURE CAN'T
Heh heh heh
AFTER WATCHING THAT AWARDS SHOW, I BET YOU CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HIM, HUH?
PLUS, I'LL SEE THIS AWARD-WINNING "NEW NANAE" PERFORMANCE EVERYONE'S RAVING ABOUT...
ALL RIGHT! IN ORDER TO GET THAT AWARD AWAY FROM HIM I'LL STUDY WHAT KIND OF GUY I'M UP AGAINST HERE.
GOOD-NESS!
WELL, I BROUGHT SOME MUSCLE CREAM AND BANDAGES FOR YOU
THANKS SORRY TO BOTHER YOU
YEAH, I KINDA SLIPPED AND FELL DOWN THE STAIRS
HI, SANAE
Fine! Next time, you're on your own!
YOU JUST HAVE TO HAVE THE LAST WORD, DON'T YOU?
Oh, and also
WHEN YOU CALLED YOU MENTIONED WATCHING A RYU EBA MOVIE I BROUGHT ONE FOR YOU
OH, DON'T WORRY JUST THINK OF ME AS AN ADOPTED BIG SISTER, OKAY?
A big sister to look up to, that's all I'll be to you, maybe

WHO...
WHO IS THIS GUY?!
HE IS SOOOO HOT! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
HE'S A LOT BETTER THAN I EXPECTED.
WHOA!
I thought she was gonna stay up and watch that movie though
Hmm...did Yuni already go to sleep?

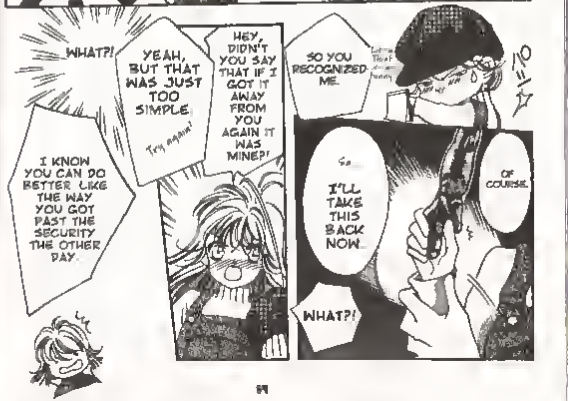
Ladies, please. I don't have a girlfriend. I'm nobody's man.
THERE'S MY MAN RYU!
SINCE YOU APPEARED ON THAT AWARDS SHOW, THE GIRLS CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF YOU
THERE HE IS! RYU EBA...I WANT HIS AUTOGRAPH!
YEAH, FOR NOW
RYU,
ARE YOU CARRYING THAT AWARD AROUND WITH YOU EVERYWHERE??
I'M DOING RESEARCH ON IT NOW, IN FACT
BY THE WAY, DO YOU HAVE A HANDLE ON THE ROLE YOU'LL BE PLAYING IN THIS FILM?
TOKYO STUDIO LOT
AAAAHH!!
WHOA! YOU WERE UP ALL NIGHT SHOOTING THAT LAST SCENE, HUH?
GOOD MORNING!
NEXT, WE'LL SHOOT SCENE 4...
HEEEY! RYUUU!

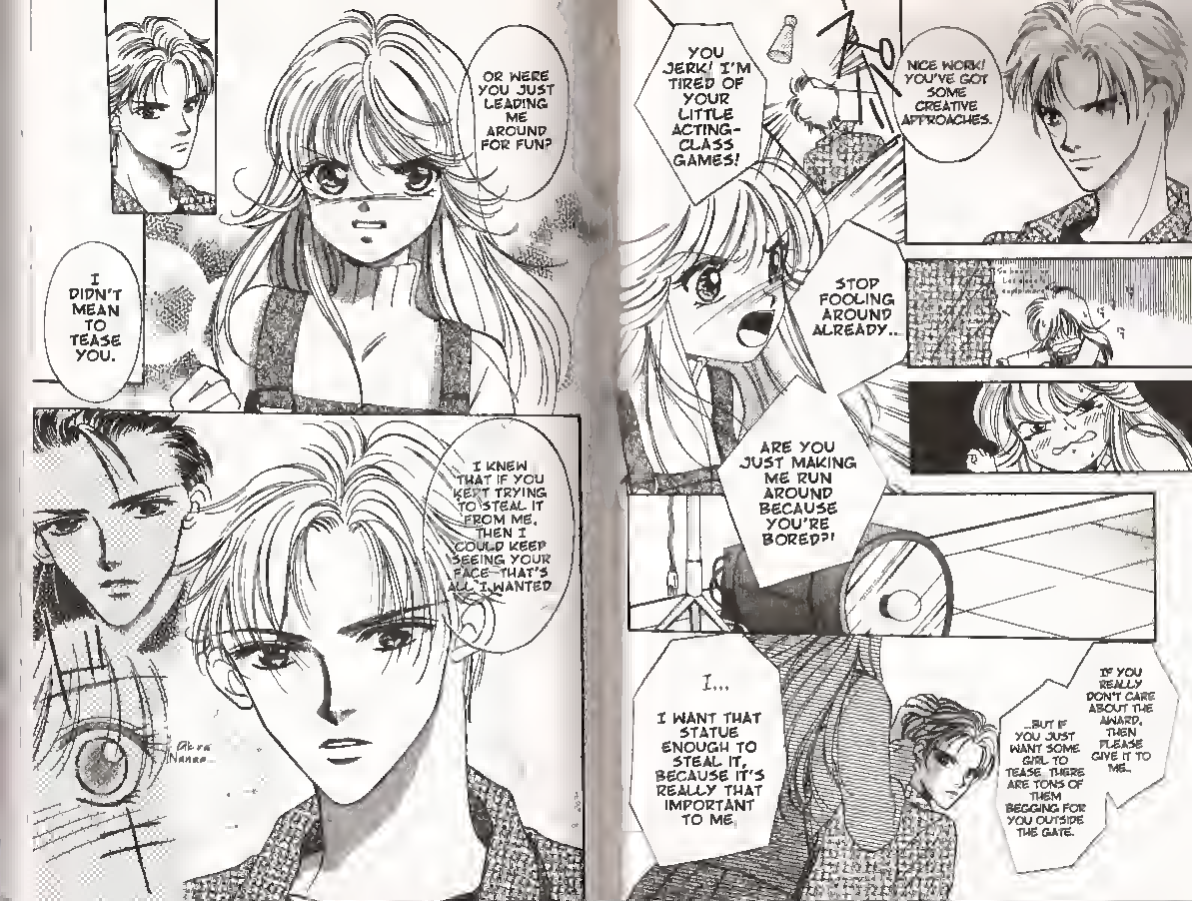

Umm
EXCUSE US, BUT CAN WE GET YOUR AUTOGRAPH?
SURE. NO PROBLEM.
REALLY? LEMME SEE!
OH! IT'S HEAVIER THAN IT LOOKS!
IS THIS THE AWARD YOU WON THE OTHER NIGHT?
HA! GOTCHA!
There I got it!


I was on the crew of his last film at the other studio. And I really want his autograph too!
Who are you?
OOOH... STILL, I WANT IT ANYWAY!
BUT SINCE WE'RE ON THE CREW IT'S PROBABLY A BAD IDEA TO JUST RUN UP AND ASK FOR IT
I HAVE AN IDEA! LET'S GET A BUNCH OF OTHER PEOPLE TO GO OVER THERE WITH US!
IF THERE ARE A BUNCH OF PEOPLE AROUND WE PROBABLY WON'T GET INTO TROUBLE FOR TALKING TO HIM.
I GET IT!
Let's call the others!
That movie really touched me
NOW I CAN SEE WHY EVERYONE CALLS YOU THE "NEW NANAS" I CAN'T CALL YOU A "B-MOVIE BOY" ANYMORE
...I'll get that award AND your autograph!
Even though you won't SEE me do it...
I'm just a wannabe!

WHAT THE?! ALL RIGHT, IF IT'S A FIGHT HE WANTS...
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
What's going on over here?
TAKE 1
THE "CATCH-HIM-WITH-HIS-HANDS-FULL" MANEUVER
I'D NOT WANNA SEE THAT!
JOHN LAUGHING SLASH.
TAKE 2
THE "DISGUISE-YOURSELF-AS-A-BOX" MANEUVER
TAKE 3
THE "WHEN ALL-ELSE FAILS" HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT MANEUVER
HAAA-YAH!
TAKE THIS! YUN-PUNCH

YOU DON'T WANT ME TO SIGN "TO THE LITTLE THIEF"?
Oh!
SO COULD YOU SIGN THIS? PLEASE SIGN IT "TO SANAE" FOR ME
WHAT?! SHE KNOWS HIM?!
Oooh, bastard!
Here you go
HOW ARE YOUR LEGS TODAY?


WHAT?!
I KNOW YOU CAN DO BETTER LIKE THE WAY YOU GOT PAST THE SECURITY THE OTHER DAY.
YEAH, BUT THAT WAS JUST TOO SIMPLE.
Try again!
HEY, DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT IF I GOT IT AWAY FROM YOU AGAIN IT WAS MINE?!
SO YOU RECOGNIZED ME.
Curse that memory!
Ga...
I'LL TAKE THIS BACK NOW.
WHAT?!
OF COURSE.


I DIDN'T MEAN TO TEASE YOU.
OR WERE YOU JUST LEADING ME AROUND FOR FUN?
I KNEW THAT IF YOU KEPT TRYING TO STEAL IT FROM ME, THEN I COULD KEEP SEEING YOUR FACE—THAT'S ALL I WANTED
YOU JERK! I'M TIRED OF YOUR LITTLE ACTING-CLASS GAMES!
NICE WORK! YOU'VE GOT SOME CREATIVE APPROACHES.
STOP FOOLING AROUND ALREADY..
ARE YOU JUST MAKING ME RUN AROUND BECAUSE YOU'RE BORED?!
I...
I WANT THAT STATUE ENOUGH TO STEAL IT, BECAUSE IT'S REALLY THAT IMPORTANT TO ME.
...BUT IF YOU JUST WANT SOME GIRL TO TEASE, THERE ARE TONS OF THEM BEGGING FOR YOU OUTSIDE THE GATE.
IF YOU REALLY DON'T CARE ABOUT THE AWARD, THEN PLEASE GIVE IT TO ME.

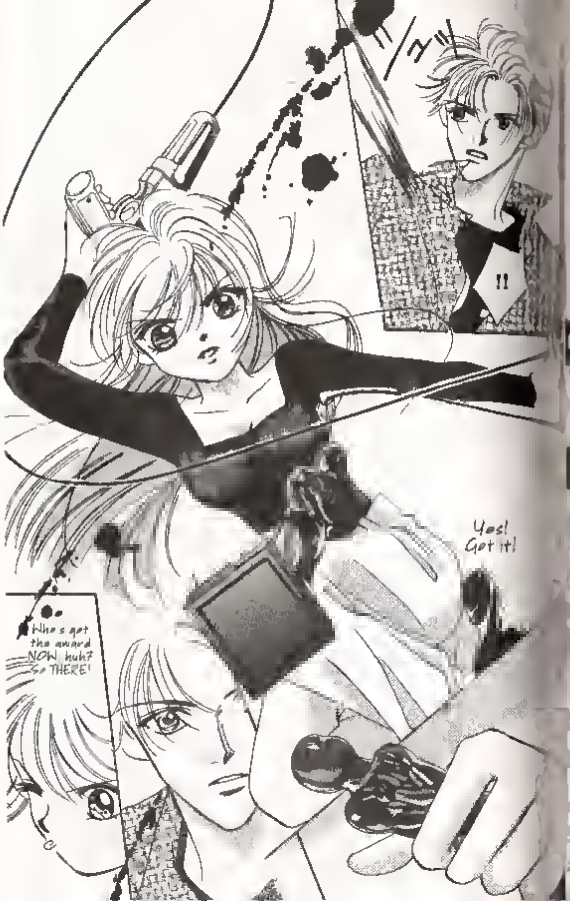
OH, THAT?! THEY JUST PICKED THAT GUY'S NAME FROM A HAT OR SOMETHING.
...ESPECIALLY SINCE WE ALL THOUGHT YOU HAD THE AWARD FOR SURE!
WE'VE NOTICED HOW CONTENT YOU SEEM SINCE THE GOLD ACADEMY GRAND AWARDS SHOW, MR OBOTARU...
I HAVEN'T GIVEN IT A SECOND THOUGHT HA HA HA!
I SHOULD GO SAY HELLO!
HEY, IT'S RYU EBA!
I WANT TO SEE YOU TAKE THIS FROM ME ONE MORE TIME.
What the?
I JUST WANTED TO SEE YOUR FACE AGAIN THAT'S ALL.
THAT JERK! HE USED ME!

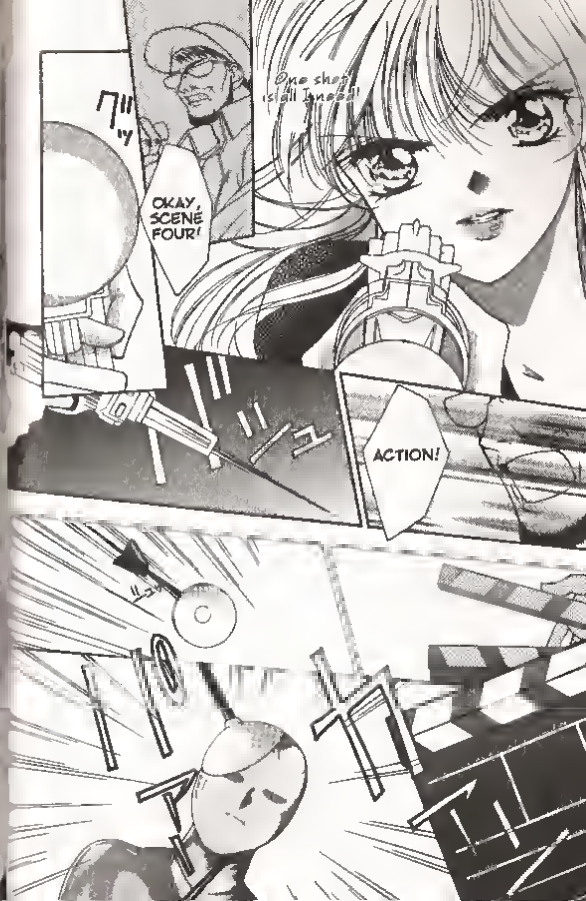
For a second, he looked JUST like the real Akira!
MR. EBA, WHAT HAPPENED?
WH-- WHAT IN THE WORLD AM I THINKING?
!!
OH!
And just what did he MEAN by that?!
Ryu Eba is playing the part of a thief...?
YOU KNOW, I HEARD HE BROUGHT THAT AWARD WITH HIM HERE. MAYBE THAT HELPS...
IT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT CHARACTER THAN IN HIS LAST FILM, AND THIS IS A COMEDY.
It might be hard for him to get into the role at first.
YEAH, I THINK RYU EBA WILL DO A GREAT JOB PLAYING THE THIEF!
He doesn't mean that he... Could he actually...

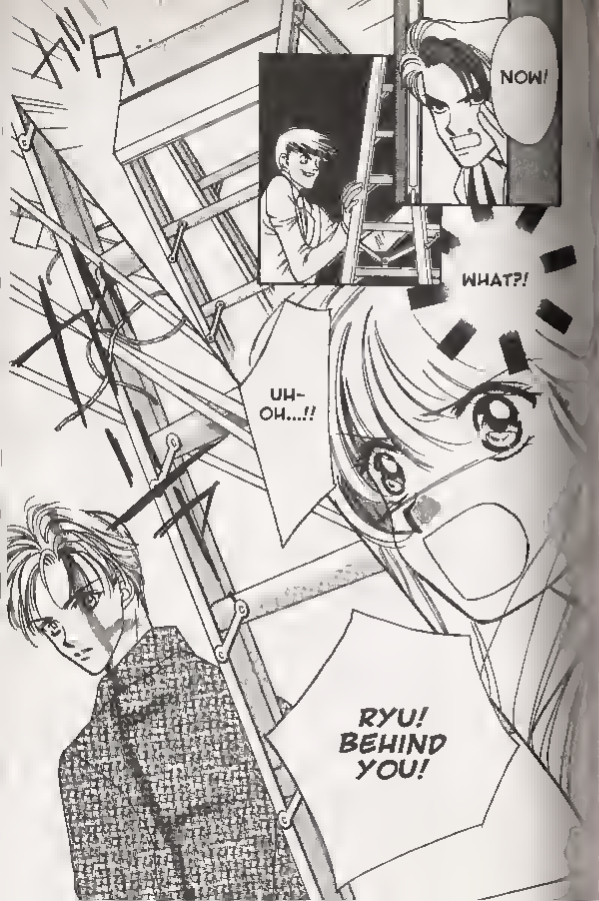
HEH HEH! MY POWERFUL PRESENCE HAS LEFT HIM SPEECHLESS, HUH?
YOU'VE GOT SOME FOOD ON YOUR FACE RIGHT HERE.
That's Jun Obotaru
Oh, I think Ryu might be falling for me Too bad
JEEZ...
He should be more aware of other people!
SO THIS HM IS THE OLD STATUE THEY GAVE AKIRA NANAE WAY BACK WHEN?
YOU REALLY ARE JUST A KID, AREN'T YOU? YOU BROUGHT THIS THING ALL THE WAY TO THE LOT TO SHOW EVERYBODY?
OOPS! SO SORRY! WAS THAT YOUR PRECIOUS LITTLE AWARD?
YOU OUGHTTA AT LEAST SAY SOMETHING!
I CAME ALL THE WAY OVER HERE TO TALK TO YOU!
HEY, KID!!
I KNOW YOU'RE EATING, BUT..
ALTHOUGH I'M SURE YOU ALREADY KNOW MY NAME!
..I WANTED TO INTRODUCE MYSELF I'M JUN OBOTARU
I KNOW SOMEONE WHO SURE WOULDN'T LIKE TO SEE YOU DO THAT!
I DIDN'T REALLY WANT THE AWARD ANYWAY, YOU KNOW...

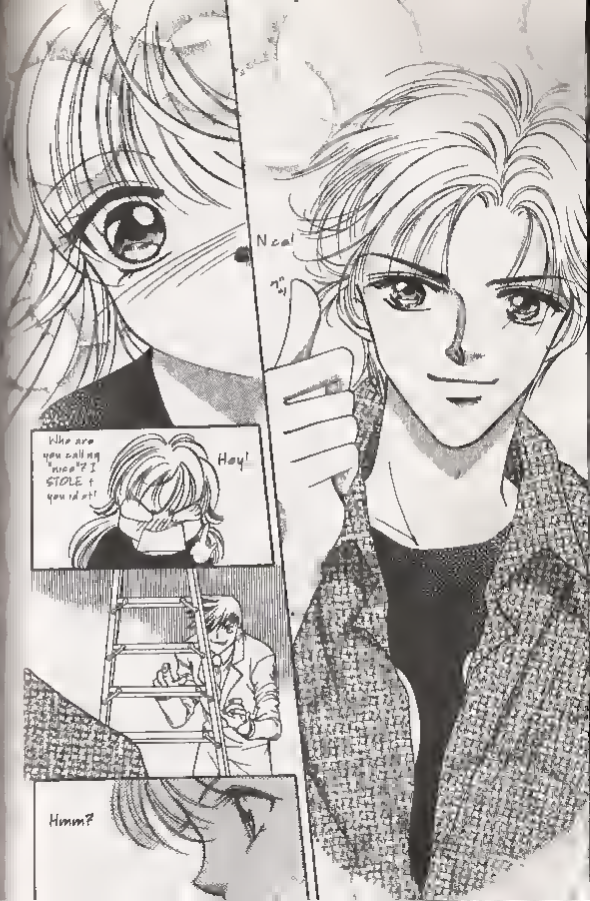
I WASN'T REALLY MOVED BY YOUR CHEESY MOVIE ANYWAY... AND I DON'T NEED YOUR STUPID AUTOGRAPH!
ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY! WE'RE ALMOST READY TO START!
I shouldn't have come here. I'm not in the mood for this kind of thing!
THIS HIGH-POWER SUPER-SUCTION-CUP GUN WILL DO THE TRICK.
PLAY TIME IS OVER, RYU EBA!

I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU MESS WITH JUN OBOTARU
THERE'S NOTHING ON MY FACE...
...BUT MY BEAUTY MARK!!
FOAMHEAD?
YOU BONE-HEAD!
WHO'S THERE?! YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ABOUT MY HAIR?!
I can't dumber than I thought!

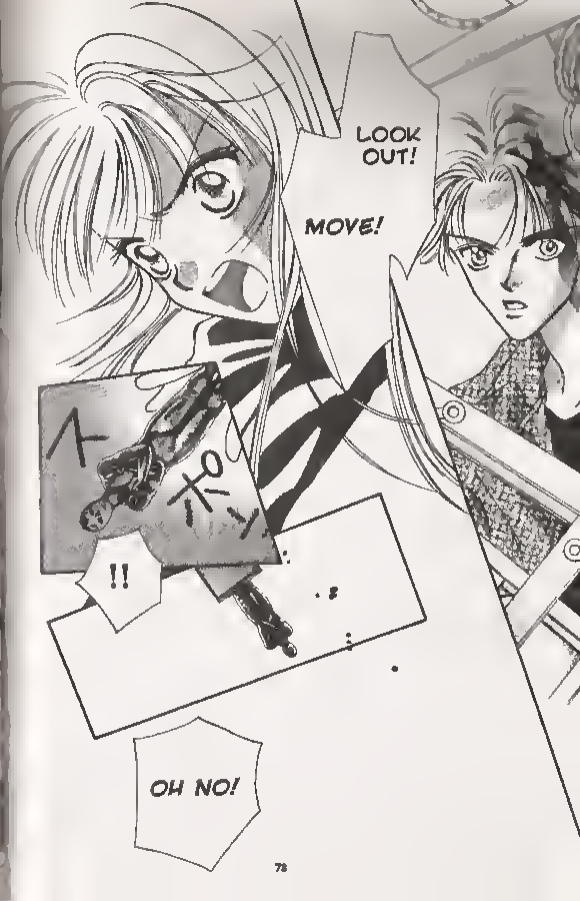

Who's got the award NOW, huh? Go THERE!
Yes! Got it!


OKAY, SCENE FOUR!
One shot is all I need!!
ACTION!


NOW!
WHAT?!
UH-OH...!!
RYU! BEHIND YOU!

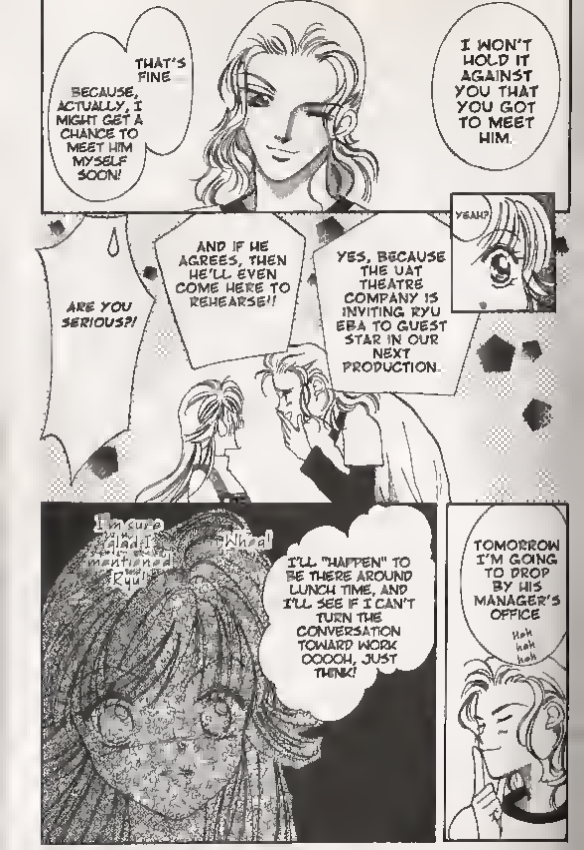

Hey!
Who are you calling "nice"? I STOLE it you idiot!
Himm?

WHOA, THAT WAS CLOSE!

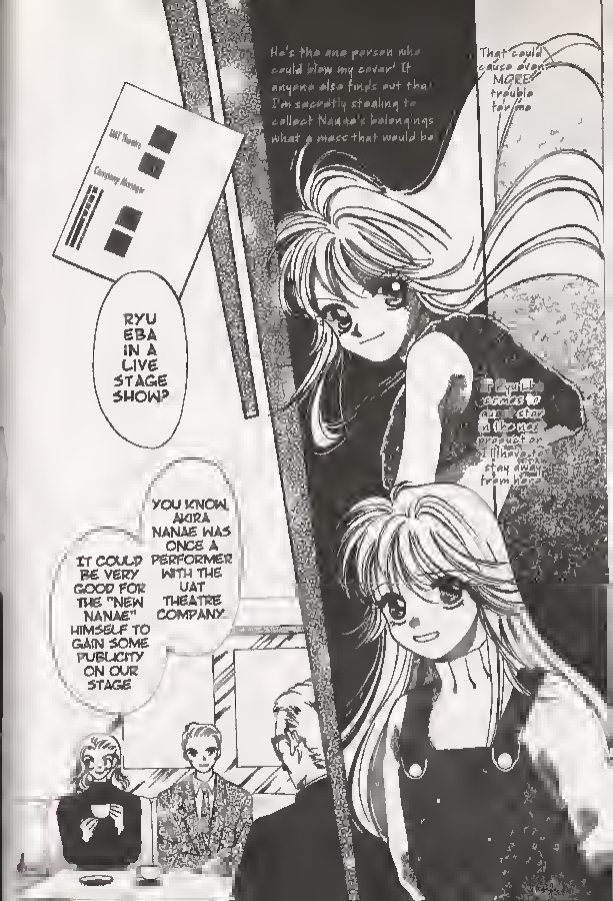

LOOK OUT!
MOVE!
!!
OH NO!

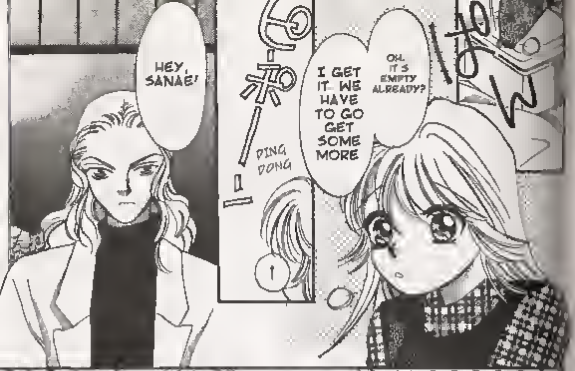
OKAY, LET'S BEGIN YOUR VOCAL WARM-UPS!
I'M SORRY, RYU.
But even so... it was ME who actually knocked him out.
DAMN!
THEY'RE GONE...
THAT CREEP JUN OBOTARU TRIED TO ASSAULT RYU EBA!
NICE JOB THERE!
AAH!
RYU!
THAT CREEP!
HEY, SOMEBODY'S UP ON THE CATWALK!
WHO'S UP THERE?!
WHAT'S HAPPENING? THE SET IS FALLING APART!
OOOOH, THIS IS NO GOOD

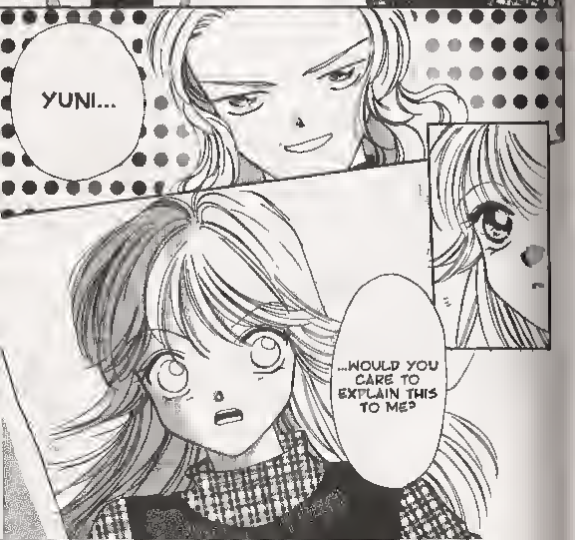
Yeah, "bumped" is the best word here
I HAPPENED TO BE NEAR THE LOCATION WHERE HE WAS FILMING AND KINDA BUMPED INTO HIM
Eh!?
OH MY GOSH! RYU EBA'S AUTOGRAPH?!
HOW'D YOU GET THIS?!
あえばりゅうえばぁぁぁ!
UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL?!
SO THEN YOU SAW RYU EBA IN THE FLESH?!
YOU SLY LITTLE FOX!!
Probably because
I want to a LOT of trouble to get that award away from him, but in the end it slipped right through my fingers
and onto his head!
WELL, HOW WAS HE? DID HE LOOK GOOD?
YEAH OF COURSE...
?
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK A LITTLE PALE.


I WON'T HOLD IT AGAINST YOU THAT YOU GOT TO MEET HIM.
THAT'S FINE
BECAUSE, ACTUALLY, I MIGHT GET A CHANCE TO MEET HIM MYSELF SOON!
YEAH?
YES, BECAUSE THE UAT THEATRE COMPANY IS INVITING RYU EBA TO GUEST STAR IN OUR NEXT PRODUCTION.
AND IF HE AGREES, THEN HE'LL EVEN COME HERE TO REHEARSE!!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
I'm sure glad I never stopped mentioned Ryu!
What
I'LL "HAPPEN" TO BE THERE AROUND LUNCH TIME, AND I'LL SEE IF I CAN'T TURN THE CONVERSATION TOWARD WORK OOOOH, JUST THINK!
TOMORROW I'M GOING TO DROP BY HIS MANAGER'S OFFICE
Hoh hoh hoh

...THAN BEING COMPARED TO THAT AKIRA NANAE
WHEN IT COMES TO WORK, NOTHING TURNS MY STOMACH MORE.
!!
I HATE TO BE RUDE, BUT ARE YOU LEAVING SOON?
UM, PLEASE EXCUSE HIM. YESTERDAY HE SUFFERED A HEAD INJURY, SO TODAY HE CAN'T FIX HE'S NOT IN A VERY GOOD MOOD
MAN, THAT'S AN UGLY NAME!
HEY, RYU!
OH I GOT THAT ONE FROM A FRIEND OF MINE
But could you sign it again this time just for ME?
To Sanae Love, Ryu Eba!
I WONDER IF I COULD HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH?
UM ...I'M A HUGE FAN OF YOURS!


He's the one person who could blow my cover! If anyone else finds out that I'm secretly stealing to collect Nanase's belongings what a mess that would be
That could cause even MORE trouble for me
RYU EBA IN A LIVE STAGE SHOW?
YOU KNOW, AKIRA NANAE WAS ONCE A PERFORMER WITH THE UAT THEATRE COMPANY.
IT COULD BE VERY GOOD FOR THE "NEW NANAE" HIMSELF TO GAIN SOME PUBLICITY ON OUR STAGE


HEY, SANAE!
I GET IT. WE HAVE TO GO GET SOME MORE
OH, IT'S EMPTY ALREADY?
DING DONG


YUNI...
...WOULD YOU CARE TO EXPLAIN THIS TO ME?

It must've really nailed him. Hope it's not TOO serious.
UH-HUH I SEE WELL, THEN, I'LL CALL BACK ANOTHER DAY THANK YOU!
OH, REALLY? FILMING TODAY HAS BEEN CANCELLED?!
WHAT DO YOU WANT, KAMUI?

Okay, this might seem random so let me explain
GROSS! DON'T LET THOSE MILLIPEDES OUT ON MY BED!!
Millipedes are an important source of protein in Kamui's diet!
This kind of beetle larva!

THAT BOX?

YOU TOLD SANAE ABOUT ME?!
WHO'DA THOUGHT THE LITTLE THIEF WAS REALLY CONNECTED WITH THE UAT THEATRE COMPANY HUH?
I DIDN'T SAY THAT, DID I?
What can I DO? He knows who I am!
THEN WHY—
WHY, HUH?
PUT YOUR HANDS ON MY CHEST...
UNZIP MY JACKET. SLOWLY NOW...
JUST WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO TO YOU?!
And my name and where I live!!
I HAVE TO GO BACK TO WORK NOW, BUT I EXPECT TO HEAR A DETAILED REPORT ABOUT THIS LATER!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT MY HOUSE?
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?!
So now
IT WAS SO SIMPLE, ONCE I SAW THAT THE AUTOGRAPH I GAVE TO YOU WAS IN THAT BOOK
!

HEY THERE YUNIKO

I'M NOT! I JUST CAME TO BRING YOU THAT AWARD...
WHY ARE YOU STILL HARASSING ME?!
WHAT IS WITH YOU?!
OWW!
..LIKE I PROMISED, REMEMBER? I SAID I WOULD.
PLUS, I WANTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
!
THAT, AND I HAVE SOME FREE TIME ON MY HANDS NOW...
NO WAY! IS THAT REALLY WHY YOU CAME HERE?
!
YEAH, SORRY THAT'S KIND A MY FAULT...

NO!
NO!
NO!
NOOOO!
He wants me to strip him?? He's probably gonna make me do something really perverted!
DO AS I SAY, OR I'LL LET EVERYBODY KNOW YOU'RE REALLY A SNEAKY CAT BURGLAR!
Sure, I'm a thief but, even so, I'm still a virgin! I don't wanna end up like this!
HEY, HEY! I'M THE MOVIELAND MESSENGER —YOU CAN CALL ME OSCAR!
I CAME ALL THE WAY FROM MOVIELAND!
YOU IDIOT!!!
NICE TO MEET YA!

WANT ME TO GIVE YOU A LIFT?
LET'S LOCK UP AND GO, KAMUI
DO YOU USUALLY RIDE A MOTORCYCLE, MR. EBA? DON'T YOU THINK IT'S KINDA DANGEROUS?
HEY! PLEASE WAIT!
JUST CALL ME RYU, OKAY? NO NEED FOR FORMALITIES!
YEP, WE'RE OUT OF MILLIPEDES.
NO PROBLEM! IT'S BEEN AWHILE YOU HERE TO GET FOOD FOR KAMUI?
HUHN? MA, IT!
OUUUCH!
WHOA, KAMUI!
OH, RIGHT! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE PET STORE FOR MORE FOOD!
IS THAT SOME KIND OF MOUSE?
HE'S A FLYING SQUIRREL. HIS NAME'S KAMUI
HMPH! I THINK I REMEMBER SOMETHING THAT SIZE USING MY HEAD AS A SKATEBOARD A WHILE BACK
Oh, yeah I almost forgot he's playing a thief in that movie
But...
THAT'S WHAT REALLY COUNTS!
THIS AWARD IS FINALLY MINE!

HEY CINNAMON. SAY HI TO YUNI C'MON!
SHE'S A CALICO-FLYING SQUIRREL, BUT MOST OF HER FUR IS A CINNAMON COLOR.
SHE'S REALLY TIMID, THOUGH
OH, SHE IS REALLY CUTE!
HEY, HALF-PINT! STOP TREMBLING. BE FRIENDLY.
おいぉ—
びくっ
This is Fuji

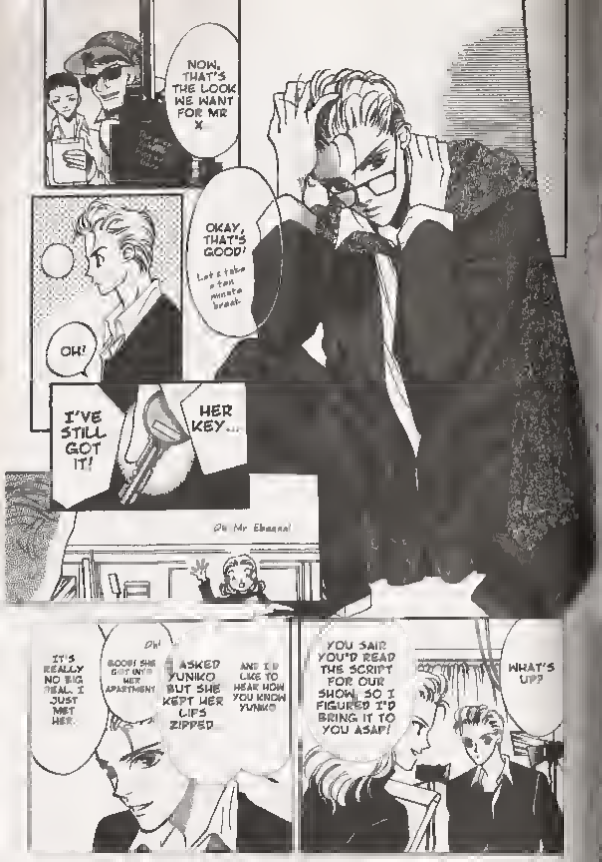
Oho I SEE YOU BROUGHT YOUR BOYFRIEND ALONG TODAY. HUH?
N-NO! I WOULDN'T DATE A GUY LIKE THIS.
MAN, THAT IS ONE BIG BUG.
CAN YOU HANDLE THAT THING?
HEY KAMUI!
YOU'RE LOOKING HEALTHY AS USUAL.
SO HOW ABOUT THIS SUPER MILLIPEDE? IT'S PRETTY BIG.
もぞ

がば
I DON'T DATE LITTLE THIE—
ACTUALLY, MISTER...
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, HUH? "I GUY LIKE THIS"?
SUDDENLY
WE HAVE A NICE FEMALE HERE!
A mate for Kamui?
LET ME SHOW YOU THIS LITTLE ONE. SHE'S UNUSUAL, AND LOTS OF PEOPLE SAY THEY'D LIKE TO TAKE HER HOME.
But I'm one of them. Actually I LIKE
IF KAMUI LIKES HER, THEN I THINK SHE'D BE VERY HAPPY WITH YOU, YUNI.
...HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT GETTING A MATE FOR KAMUI THIS SPRING?
BY THE WAY, YUNIKO

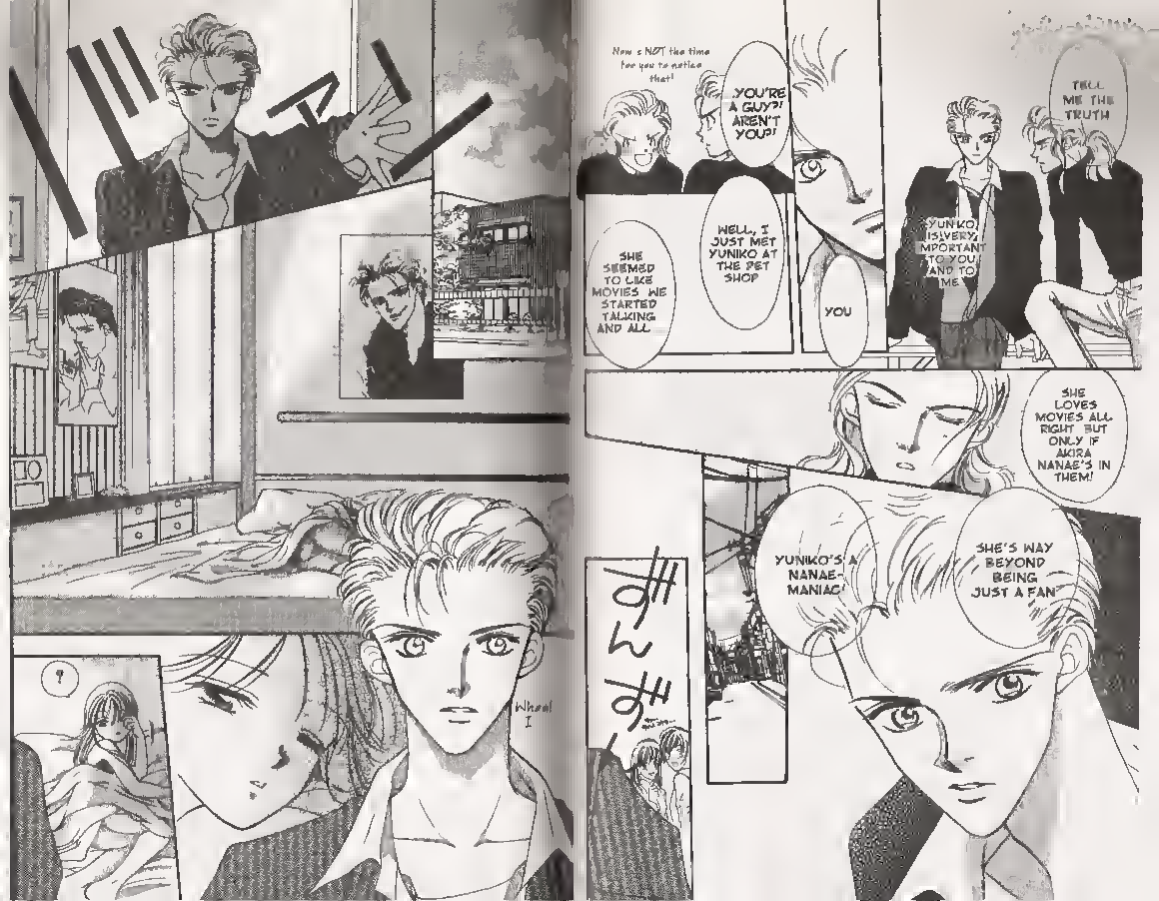
REALLY? THAT'S TOO BAD THEN
She's adorable though!
ACTUALLY, I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL NOW WITH KAMUI. I DON'T THINK I CAN RAISE ANOTHER PET RIGHT NOW.
BUT THINK IT OVER, WILL YA?
THANKS! PLEASE COME AGAIN!
I FOUND KAMUI ONE NIGHT UP ON A MOUNTAIN WHILE I WAS OUT ON MY FIRST JOB. HE WAS JUST AN INFANT.
HMM. HANDS SHAKE.
KAMUI IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES...
SO I THINK I'D RATHER MATE HIM WITH ANOTHER MONSHU-FLYING SQUIRREL SO THEY CAN HELP INCREASE THEIR NUMBERS AGAIN.
AAAH! SHE PEED ON ME!
I'VE GOT SOME IN MY COAT POCKET
A TISSUE
DON'T MOVE I'LL GRAB THEM FOR YOU
AH, YUNIKO...
OH, MAN! MY SLEEVES ARE WET NOW!
THAT MINI-ANIMAL HAS ONE BIG BLADDER

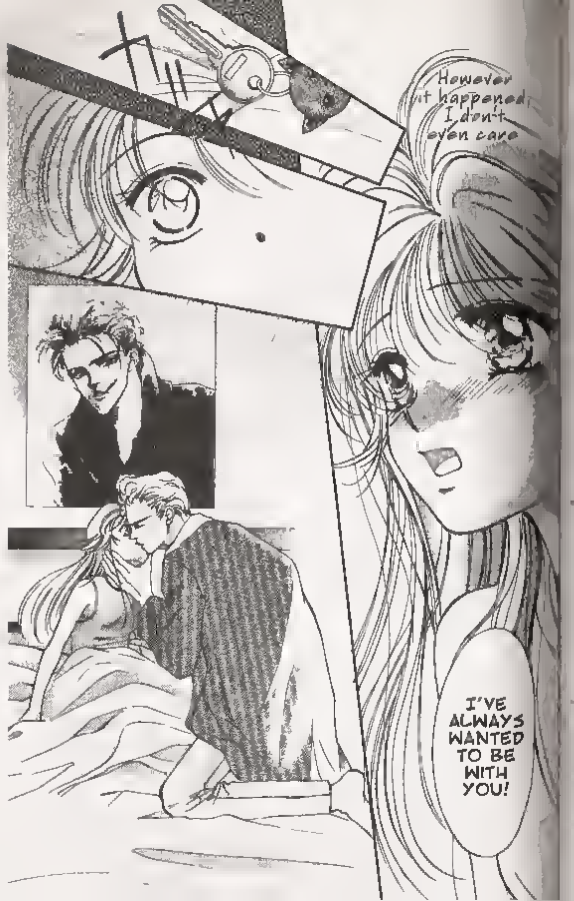
PEOPLE SAY YOU HAVE SO MUCH IN COMMON, AND IN SOME WAYS THAT'S TRUE. YOU BOTH HAVE A LOT OF APPEAL, BUT BEYOND THAT THERE'S NOTHING!
PLUS, YOU BOTH HAVE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT AIR ABOUT YOU.
THE WAY YOU EACH DELIVER YOUR LINES AND SUPPORT YOUR PERFORMANCE IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT
THANKS
.....
RYU!! WHERE THE HECK ARE YOU?!
DID YOU FORGET ABOUT THE MAGAZINE INTERVIEW YOU HAVE TONIGHT?!
oh, crap!
HELLO?
?
RRR RRR RRR
KING
pitch
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE HEARD SOMEONE SAY IT SO CLEARLY

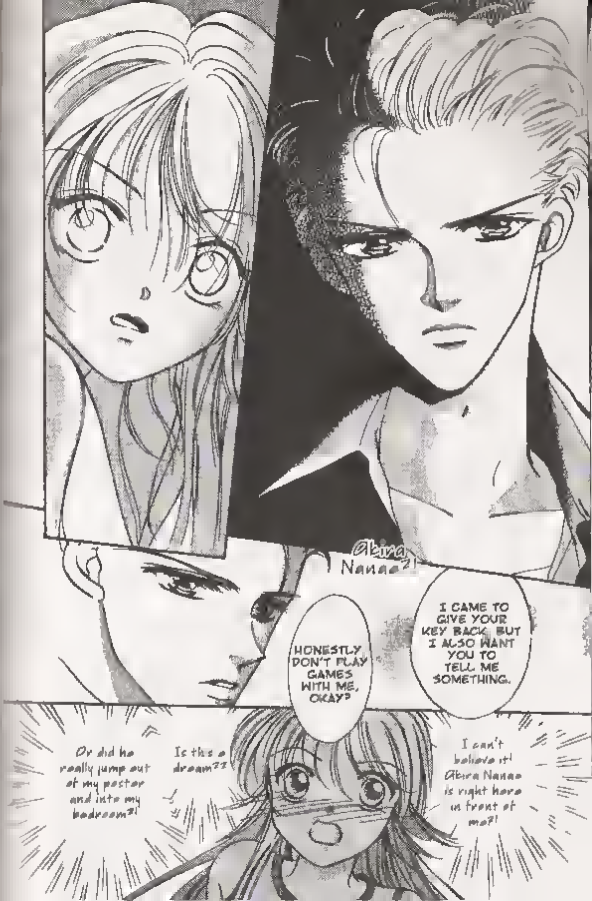
EH... I DON'T KNOW YET. I GUESS I'LL AT LEAST READ THE SCRIPT, BUT I FIGURE I'LL TURN IT DOWN.
YEAH, ANYWAY WHAT ABOUT YOU? ARE YOU GONNA BE IN THE NEXT UAT PRODUCTION?
Oops!
I better stop talking before he knows too much!
I HATE WHEN PEOPLE COMPARE ME TO HIM.
IT'S NANAE'S OLD THEATRE COMPANY
THAT MAKES ME SO MAD!
YEAH! ME, TOO!
YOU AND AKIRA ARE NOTHING ALIKE!
SO, TELL ME HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN STEALING?
SINCE LAST YEAR.
BUT YOU'RE A MEMBER OF UAT, SO AREN'T YOU STUDYING TO BE AN ACTRESS?
NEP! NO WAY! I'M ONLY THERE BECAUSE MY MOTHER WAS—
OH, SO YOUR PARENTS ARE ACTORS?!


NOW, THAT'S THE LOOK WE WANT FOR MR X
OKAY, THAT'S GOOD!
Let's take a ten minute break
OH!
I'VE STILL GOT IT!
HER KEY...
Oh Mr Ebana!
IT'S REALLY NO BIG DEAL. I JUST MET HER.
Oh!
BOOH! SHE GOT ONTO MY APARTMENT
I ASKED YUNIKO BUT SHE KEPT HER LIPS ZIPPED
AND I'D LIKE TO HEAR HOW YOU KNOW YUNIKO
YOU SAID YOU'D READ THE SCRIPT FOR OUR SHOW, SO I FIGURED I'D BRING IT TO YOU ASAP!
WHAT'S UP?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE COLLECTING BUT_
UH, OKAY
I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO I HAVE TO HEAD BACK
OH! UM, BUT ABOUT ME...
HE PINCHED MY NOSE! HMPH!
_DON'T GET IN OVER YOUR HEAD, 'KAY?
See ya!
DON'T WORRY I WON'T TELL ANYBODY
WHERE'S MY KEY?
WHAT?!
RYU MIGHT COME WORK AT UAT, THAT'D BE NICE, HUH?


Now's NOT the time for you to notice that!
YOU'RE A GUY?! AREN'T YOU?!
WELL, I JUST MET YUNIKO AT THE PET SHOP
SHE SEEMED TO LIKE MOVIES WE STARTED TALKING AND ALL
YOU
YUNIKO IS VERY IMPORTANT TO YOU AND TO ME
TELL ME THE TRUTH
SHE LOVES MOVIES ALL RIGHT BUT ONLY IF AKIRA NANAE'S IN THEM!
YUNIKO'S A NANAE-MANIAC!
SHE'S WAY BEYOND BEING JUST A FAN
Whoa! I
?
ああ

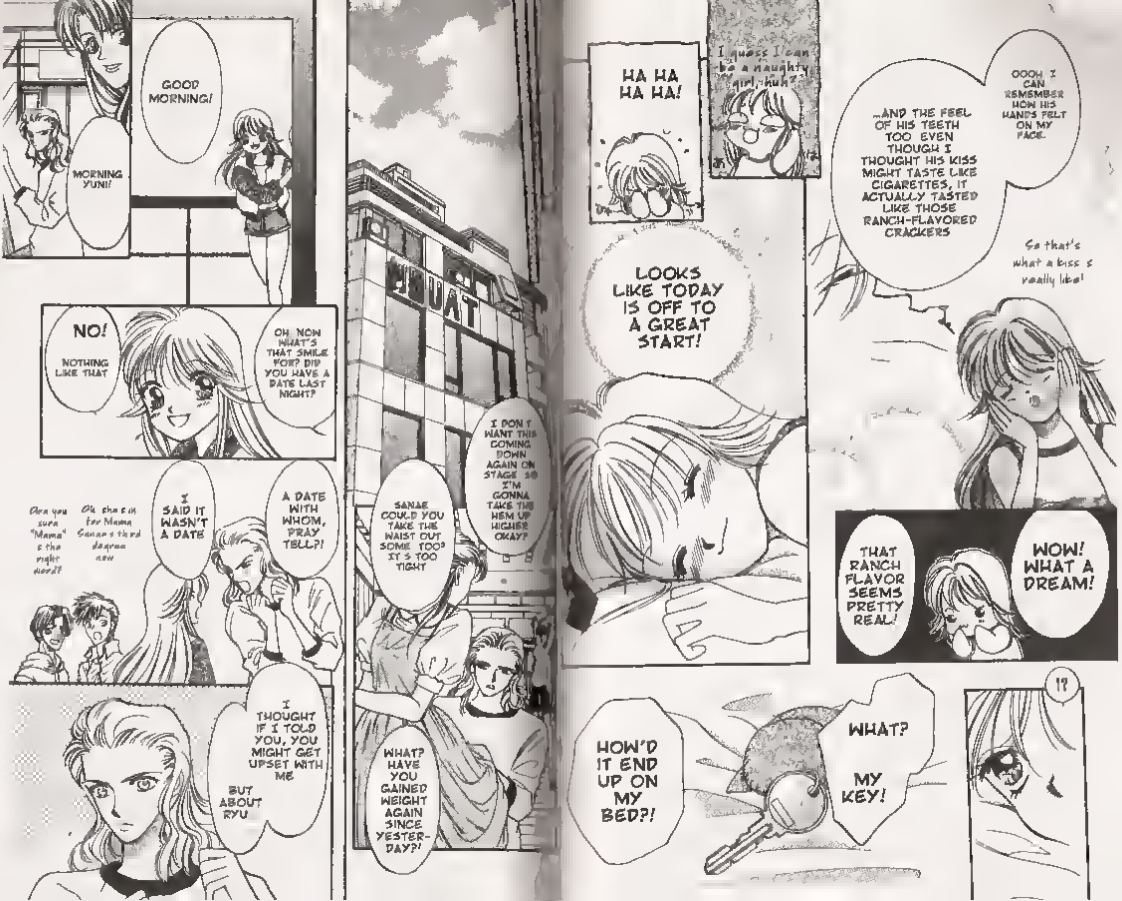

However it happened, I don't even care
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE WITH YOU!

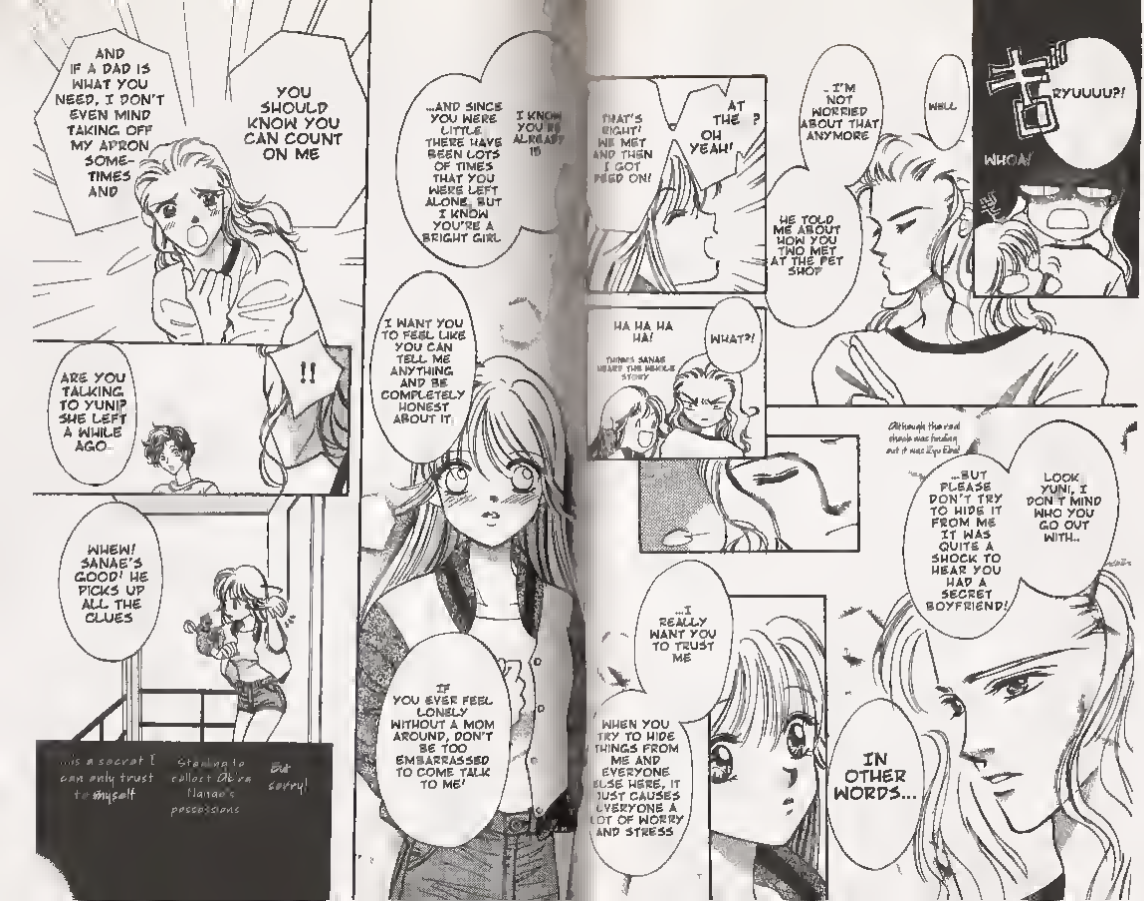

Akira Nanao?
I CAME TO GIVE YOUR KEY BACK, BUT I ALSO WANT YOU TO TELL ME SOMETHING.
HONESTLY DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH ME, OKAY?
I can't believe it! Akira Nanao is right here in front of me?!
Is this a dream??
Or did he really jump out of my poster and into my bedroom?!

WHAT THE-?!
OOOOOH! I LOVE YOU AKIRA MMMM..
WHAT'D YOU JUST SAY?
THAT'S NOT FUNNY! DON'T JOKE LIKE THAT!
SHE'S NOT REALLY AWAKE. SHE ACTUALLY THOUGHT I WAS...!!

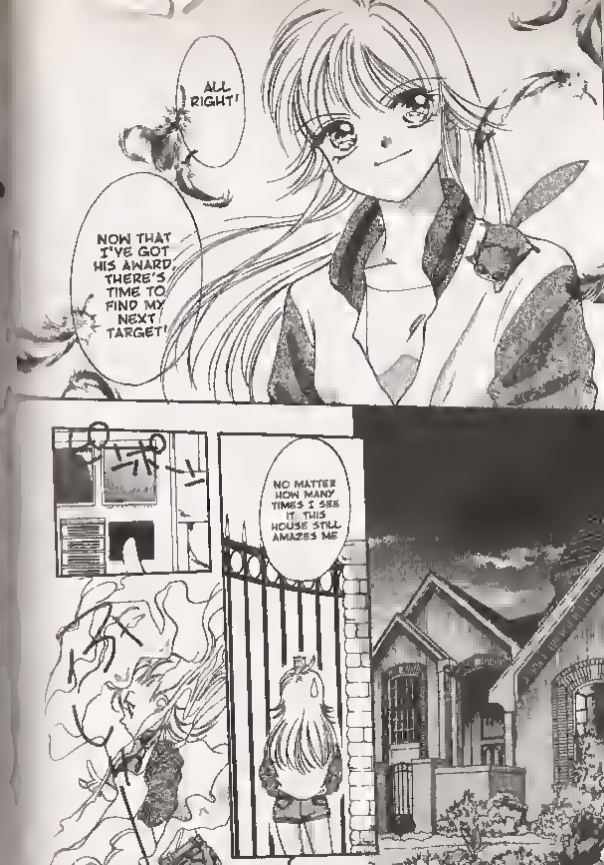
Oh, Akira!

OH MY GOSH!!
That was the most AMAZING dream EVER!
Kamui, listen!! I just had a dream that I kissed Akira!
I feel like I really kissed Akira last night!
No way! No way!
Good grief
That was so naked! He I'm touched!
KAMUI
I feel like I just had my first kiss!!
PPPPPPP
MMM...
MMM...
WHAT A SLAP IN THE FACE!

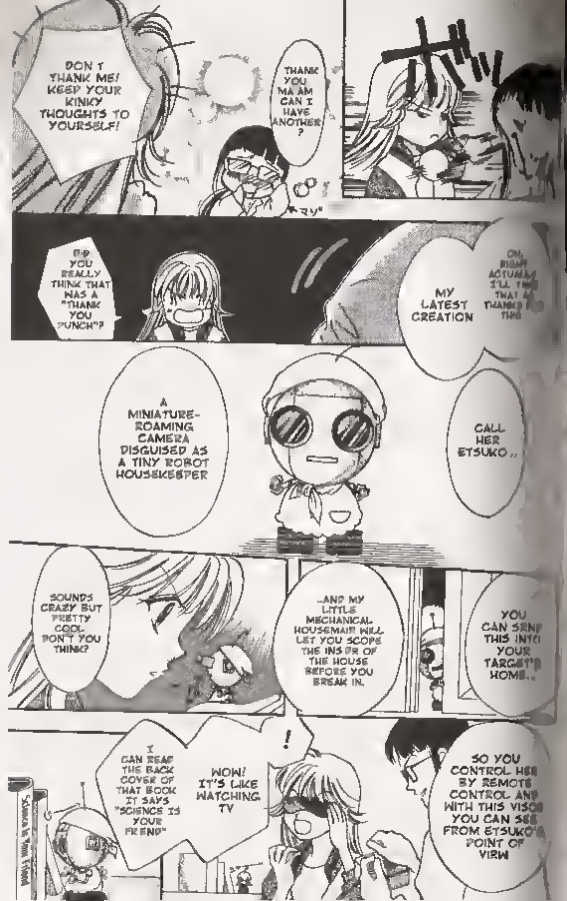

GOOD MORNING!
MORNING YUNI!
NO!
NOTHING LIKE THAT
OH, NOW WHAT'S THAT SMILE FOR? DID YOU HAVE A DATE LAST NIGHT?
Are you sure "Mama" is the right word?
Oh, she is for Mama Sanae's third degree now
I SAID IT WASN'T A DATE
A DATE WITH WHOM, PRAY TELL?!
I THOUGHT IF I TOLD YOU, YOU MIGHT GET UPSET WITH ME
BUT ABOUT RYU
I DON'T WANT THIS COMING DOWN AGAIN ON STAGE SO I'M GONNA TAKE THE HEM UP HIGHER OKAY?
SANAE COULD YOU TAKE THE WAIST OUT SOME TOO? IT'S TOO TIGHT
WHAT? HAVE YOU GAINED WEIGHT AGAIN SINCE YESTERDAY?!
HA HA HA HA!
I guess I can be a naughty girl, huh?
LOOKS LIKE TODAY IS OFF TO A GREAT START!
...AND THE FEEL OF HIS TEETH TOO. EVEN THOUGH I THOUGHT HIS KISS MIGHT TASTE LIKE CIGARETTES, IT ACTUALLY TASTED LIKE THOSE RANCH-FLAVORED CRACKERS
OOOH, I CAN REMEMBER HOW HIS HANDS FELT ON MY FACE.
So that's what a kiss is really like!
THAT RANCH FLAVOR SEEMS PRETTY REAL.
WOW! WHAT A DREAM!
HOW'D IT END UP ON MY BED?!
WHAT?
MY KEY!
19


AND IF A DAD IS WHAT YOU NEED, I DON'T EVEN MIND TAKING OFF MY APRON SOMETIMES AND
YOU SHOULD KNOW YOU CAN COUNT ON ME
ARE YOU TALKING TO YUNI? SHE LEFT A WHILE AGO...
!!
WHEW! SANAE'S GOOD! HE PICKS UP ALL THE CLUES
This is a secret I can only trust to myself
Starting to collect Okura Naiad's possessions
But sorry!
...AND SINCE YOU WERE LITTLE THERE HAVE BEEN LOTS OF TIMES THAT YOU WERE LEFT ALONE, BUT I KNOW YOU'RE A BRIGHT GIRL
I KNOW YOU'RE ALREADY 19
I WANT YOU TO FEEL LIKE YOU CAN TELL ME ANYTHING AND BE COMPLETELY HONEST ABOUT IT!
IF YOU EVER FEEL LONELY WITHOUT A MOM AROUND, DON'T BE TOO EMBARRASSED TO COME TALK TO ME!
THAT'S RIGHT! WE MET AND THEN I GOT PISSED ON!
AT THE ? OH YEAH!
HA HA HA HA!
WHAT?!
THINKS SANAE HEARD THE MIRACLE STORY
- I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT THAT ANYMORE
WELL
HE TOLD ME ABOUT HOW YOU TWO MET AT THE PET SHOP
RYUUUU?!
WHOA!
Although the real miracle was finding out it was Ryu Kino!
LOOK YUNI, I DON'T MIND WHO YOU GO OUT WITH..
...BUT PLEASE DON'T TRY TO HIDE IT FROM ME IT WAS QUITE A SHOCK TO HEAR YOU HAD A SECRET BOYFRIEND!
...I REALLY WANT YOU TO TRUST ME
WHEN YOU TRY TO HIDE THINGS FROM ME AND EVERYONE ELSE HERE, IT JUST CAUSES EVERYONE A LOT OF WORRY AND STRESS
IN OTHER WORDS...

Jeez, as usual causing a major earthquake with a snorball
WHO DARES DISTURB MY SLUMBER?!
WHO'S THERE?
I DON'T KNOW ANYONE NAMED "ME"!
IT'S ME!
VERY FUNNY NOW OPEN UP!
AUTHO VERIFICATION CONFIRMED. MS YUMICO SAKURABA PLEASE ENTER.
GATE NOW OPENING...
FOR SECURITY PURPOSES, YOUR IDENTITY WILL BE VERIFIED VIA AUTHORIZATION.
PLEASE SAY THE PASSWORD
SHUT UP, YOU PIECE OF JUNK!


ALL RIGHT!
NOW THAT I'VE GOT HIS AWARD, THERE'S TIME TO FIND MY NEXT TARGET!
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I SEE IT, THIS HOUSE STILL AMAZES ME

AWESOME, TOKIO! LET'S DO IT! USE A DEEPER VOICE THIS TIME...
SAY THAT AGAIN FOR ME...
AWESOME, TOKIO! LET'S DO IT THEN!
I PINPOINTED THE GUY WHO STOLE THE WALKMAN NANAE USED TO LISTEN TO ALL THE TIME
AND ALSO THE DEAL WITH AKIRA NANAE'S SCREEN TESTS FOR THE LAST THREE MOVIES HE DID
SHE SAID "GIVE IT TO ME" HA HA!
THIS CASE, OKAY? JUST HURRY UP AND GIVE IT TO ME WILL YOU?
THE WALKMAN IS NOW WITH SHINTAROU SAEGUSA. RIGHT NOW HE'S WORKING ON A FILM CALLED "THE MYSTERIOUS THIEF, MR. X." HE'S THE PRODUCER.
MYSTERIOUS THIEF, MR. X?!
Shintarou Saegusa
THE FILM IS NOW IN THE HANDS OF SHUJI OGAWA. 55 YEARS OLD. HE WAS AN ASSISTANT CAMERAMAN AT THAT TIME.
Ogawa
LOTS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE HIS POSSESSIONS NOW WERE WORKING ON MOVIES WITH HIM WHEN HE DIED
MY LITTLE YUNIKO!
I FIGURED YOU'D BE STOPPING BY AGAIN SOON...
YOU'RE GONNA RUIN YOUR EYES, YOU KNOW... ...ALWAYS WEARING SUNGLASSES IN THE DARK
TOKIO, WHY CAN'T YOU HAVE A NORMAL DOOR LIKE EVERYONE ELSE?!
DID I SCARE YOU?
WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS FOREVER RIGHT?! WHY ARE YOU SO MEAN TO ME?
B-B-BUT WHY NOT?!
DON'T CALL ME THAT
RIGHT NOW, I HAPPEN TO HAVE INFORMATION ON TWO CASES THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU.
Tokio's parents are researchers for NASA and they're majorly rich. He's an only child, too
His name is Tokio Hara. He's an 18-year-old mechanical genius and he's been my friend since I was really little
ACK! GIVE THEM BACK! THE LIGHT IS GETTING IN MY EYES!! ACK!
SEEING IF I'VE GOT A LEAD ON ANY NANAE BELONGINGS?
ARE YOU HERE FOR THE USUAL REASONS?


DON'T THANK ME! KEEP YOUR KINKY THOUGHTS TO YOURSELF!
THANK YOU MA'AM CAN I HAVE ANOTHER?
DID YOU REALLY THINK THAT WAS A "THANK YOU PUNCH"?
OH, RIGHT! ACTUALLY I'LL TAKE THAT AS A THANK YOU THEN!
MY LATEST CREATION
A MINIATURE-ROAMING CAMERA DISGUISED AS A TINY ROBOT HOUSEKEEPER
CALL HER ETSUKO..
SOUNDS CRAZY BUT PRETTY COOL, DON'T YOU THINK?
..AND MY LITTLE MECHANICAL HOUSEMAID WILL LET YOU SCOPE THE INSIDE OF THE HOUSE BEFORE YOU BREAK IN.
YOU CAN SEND THIS INTO YOUR TARGET'S HOME..
I CAN READ THE BACK COVER OF THAT BOOK IT SAYS "SCIENCE IS YOUR FRIEND"
WOW! IT'S LIKE WATCHING TV
SO YOU CONTROL HER BY REMOTE CONTROL AND WITH THIS VISOR YOU CAN SEE FROM ETSUKO'S POINT OF VIEW
!

WHY DO YOU SOUND SO HAPPY ABOUT IT?
HUH?
THAT'S THE MOVIE RYU EBA'S WORKING ON RIGHT NOW, ISN'T IT?
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE!
I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOUR SORRY ASS ANYTHING!
NO, NOT LIKE THAT...
ARE YOU A FAN OF HIS WORK?
THEN LIKE WOW, HURRY TELL ME!
IF YOU JUST TOSS ME AWAY YOU'LL BE SORRY YOU'LL GO STRAIGHT TO HELL
WHAT I SAID WAS: IF YOU BUKKAKE A TIME MACHINE SO I CAN GO BACK AND MEET AKIRA NANAE IN PERSON, THEN I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU TELL ME TO
OH YEAH! THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE A MECHANICAL WHIZ AND ALL..
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, YOU STOLE THAT AWARD FROM RYU EBA, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU DIDN'T SUDDENLY CHOOSE HIM OVER ME DID YOU?!
I DIDN'T "CHOOSE" ANYBODY! AND IT'S NOT LIKE I'M YOUR GIRLFRIEND EITHER!
BUT YOU SAID YOU'D DO ANYTHING I ASK! DID YOU FORGET YOUR PROMISE ALREADY?

Yuniko Sakuraba's Data

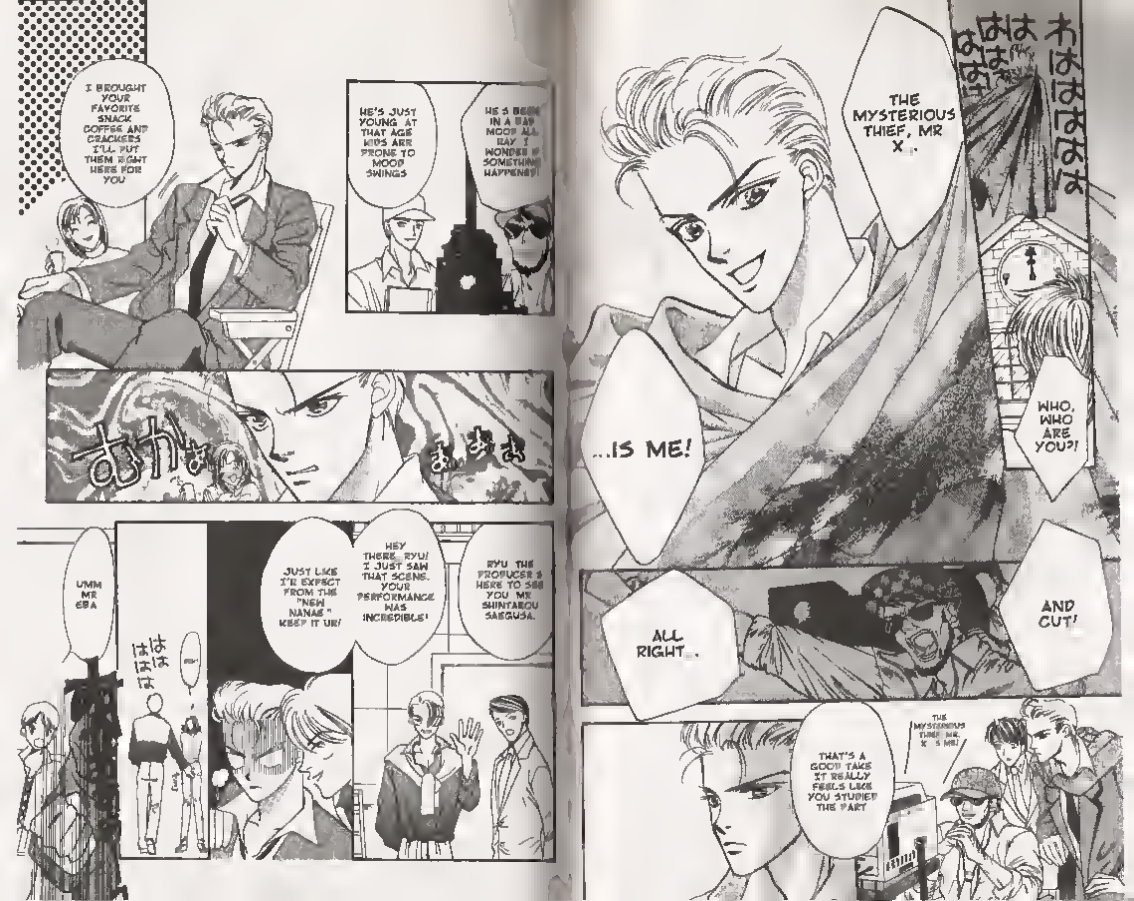
Her birthday is September 30. Libra. Blood type: O. She's 15 years old, and a self-declared Nanae-maniac. She even collects things that once belonged to him.

HEIGHT: 5'2"
WEIGHT: 103 pounds
SPECIAL ABILITIES: Kung Po

Since she was 3 years old, Yuniko studied Kenpo. Then she got the chance to study Bruce Lee-style Kung Fu, and soon discovered her individual fighting style, called "Kung Po."

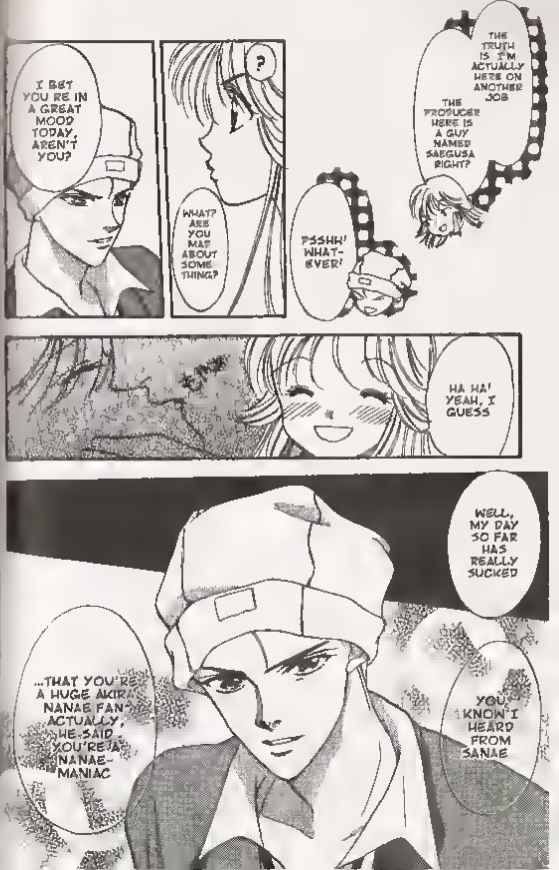
SOMEDAY: She wants her friend Tokio to build a time machine so she can go back and meet Akira Nanae in person.

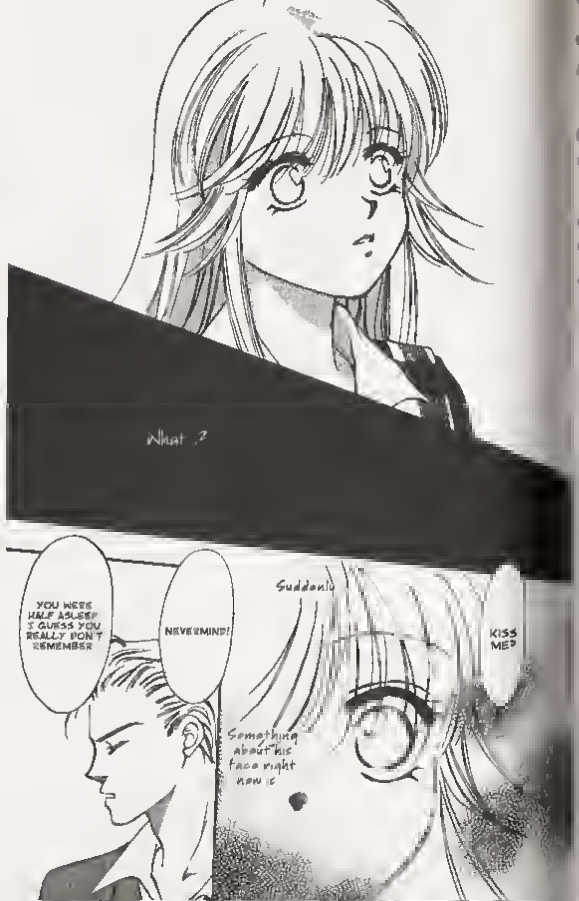
It's true.
I guess I really DO want to see Ryu again.
"WHY DO YOU SOUND SO HAPPY ABOUT IT?"
DID I REALLY SEEM THAT HAPPY?
KYAAAAH!!
I SEE LONDON, I SEE FRANCE...
?!
THANKS FOR THE LEADS AND THE ROBOT! SEE YA!
SHE COST ABOUT $50,000 TO MAKE. BUT DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT
WELL, I'M GIVING ETSUKO TO YOU
SO HIS SCREEN TEST REEL AND WALKMAN...


I BROUGHT YOUR FAVORITE SNACK COFFEE AND CRACKERS I'LL PUT THEM RIGHT HERE FOR YOU
HE'S JUST YOUNG AT THAT AGE KIDS ARE PRONE TO MOOD SWINGS
HE'S BEEN IN A BAD MOOD ALL DAY I WONDER IF SOMETHING HAPPENED?
おはよ
おはよ
UMM MR EBA
はは
はは
JUST LIKE I'LL EXPECT FROM THE "NEW NAME" KEEP IT UP!
HEY THERE RYU! I JUST SAW THAT SCENE. YOUR PERFORMANCE WAS INCREDIBLE!
RYU THE PRODUCER'S HERE TO SEE YOU MR SHINTAROU SAEGUSA.
おはよ
おはよ
おはよ
THE MYSTERIOUS THIEF, MR X..
...IS ME!
WHO, WHO ARE YOU?!
ALL RIGHT..
AND CUT!
THAT'S A GOOD TAKE IT REALLY FEELS LIKE YOU STUDIED THE PART
THE MYSTERIOUS THIEF MR. X IS ME!

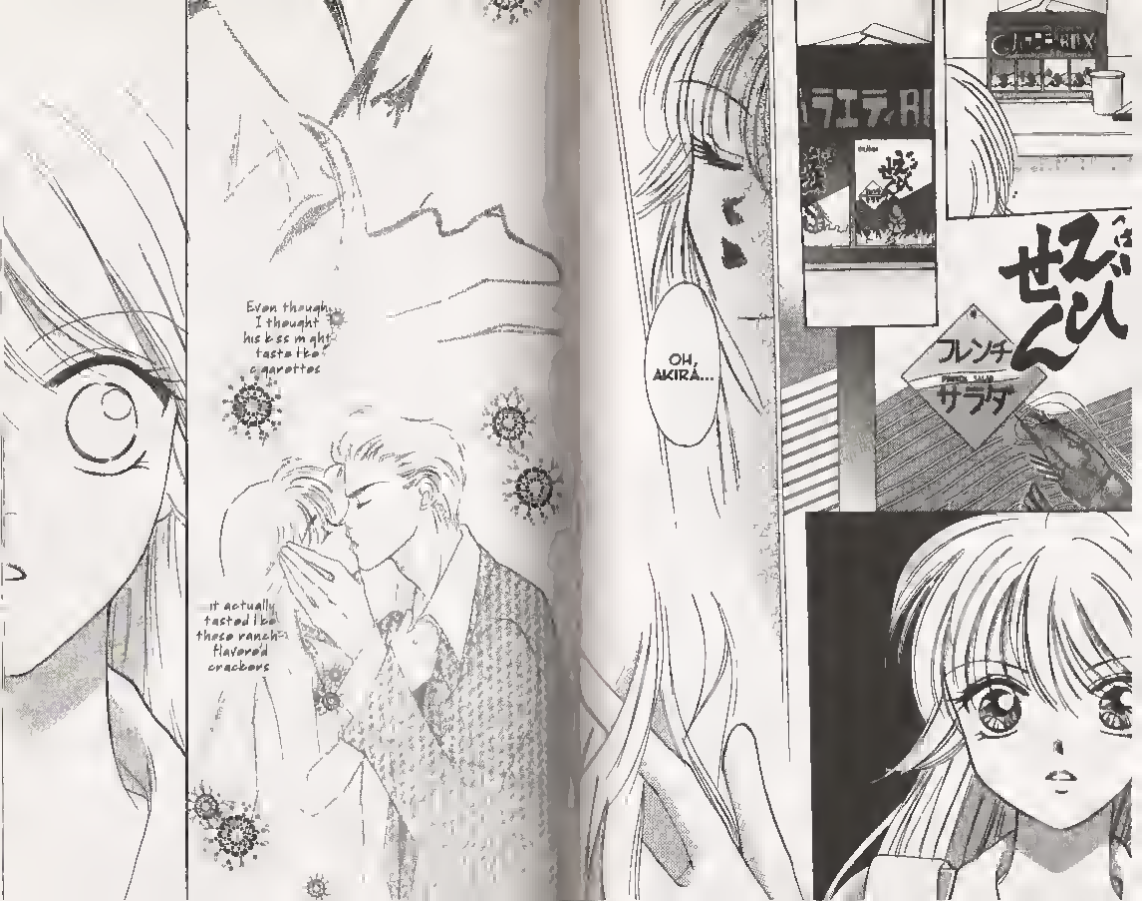
AAH! THAT WAS KINDA LOUD, HUH?
...
WOW THAT'S QUITE A VOICE YOU'VE GOT! ARE YOU STUDYING TO BE AN ACTRESS?
N-NOT REALLY
WHY'D YOU COME HERE?
Time just froze.
YOU'RE THE ONE PRETENDING NOT TO KNOW ME.
W-WHY WOULD I APOLOGIZE?
WHEN HE'S MADE UP LIKE THIS ON THE SET, SOMETHING ABOUT HIM FEELS TOTALLY DIFFERENT
RYU!
DID YOU COME TO APOLOGIZE? IS THAT IT?
THERE'S A GIRL HERE NAMED YUNIKO SAKURABA WHO SAYS YOU KNOW HER. IS SHE REALLY A FRIEND OF YOURS?
SORRY! MR. ERA SAYS HE DOESN'T KNOW YOU. I CAN'T JUST LET ANY FAN WHO SHOWS UP ON TO THE SET
WHAT? BUT I REALLY DO KNOW HIM!
WHOA! HEY, GET BACK HERE!
WHOA!
WHAT?
HUH?
WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH ACTING LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW ME, HUH?!
YO, RYU!

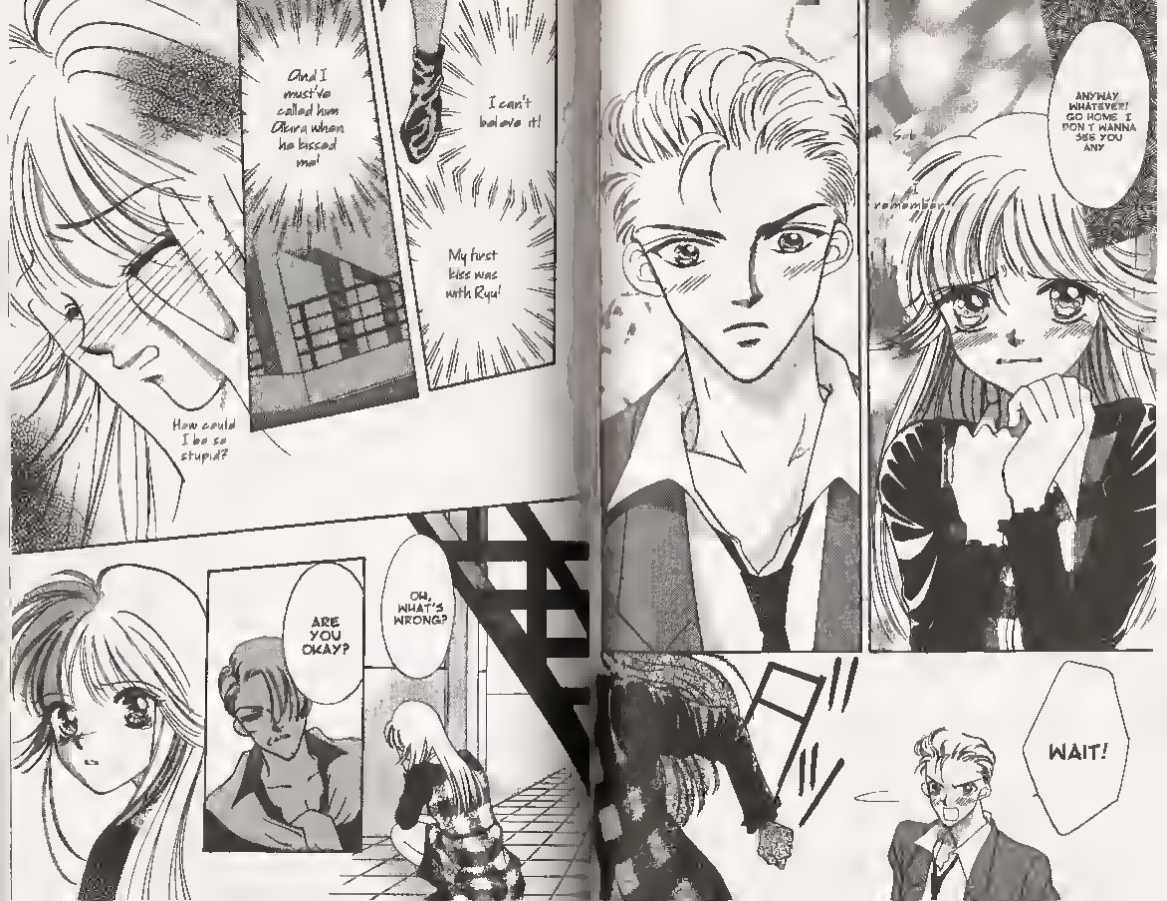
I THOUGHT YOU JUST COLLECTED MOVIE MEMORABILIA, BUT...
I DIDN'T MEAN THAT IN A BAD WAY! I NEVER SAID YOU WEREN'T COOL, TOO!
I AM A FAN OF AKIRA NANAS AND I COLLECT HIS THINGS, BUT...
I SAID THAT YOU'RE A GOOD ACTOR IN YOUR OWN WAY AND...
...NOW I SEE THAT YOU ONLY WANT THINGS THAT BELONGED TO AKIRA NANAE
AND I ALSO SEE WHY YOU GOT SO UPSET WHEN PEOPLE COMPARED ME TO YOUR PRECIOUS NANAE
AND I WAS STUPID FOR BELIEVING THAT PART, I KNOW
WHY DON'T YOU BELIEVE ME?!
BECAUSE NOW I KNOW YOU'RE FULL OF IT!
WHAT'D I EVER DO TO YOU?!
TRY REMEMBERING LAST NIGHT, WILL YOU?


I BET YOU'RE IN A GREAT MOOD TODAY, AREN'T YOU?
?
WHAT? ARE YOU MAD ABOUT SOME THING?
PSSHH! WHAT-EVER!
THE TRUTH IS I'M ACTUALLY HERE ON ANOTHER JOB
THE PRODUCER HERE IS A GUY NAMED SAEGUSA RIGHT?
HA HA! YEAH, I GUESS
WELL, MY DAY SO FAR HAS REALLY SUCKED
YOU KNOW I HEARD FROM SANAE
...THAT YOU'RE A HUGE AKIRA NANAE FAN? ACTUALLY, HE SAID YOU'RE A NANAE-MANIAC

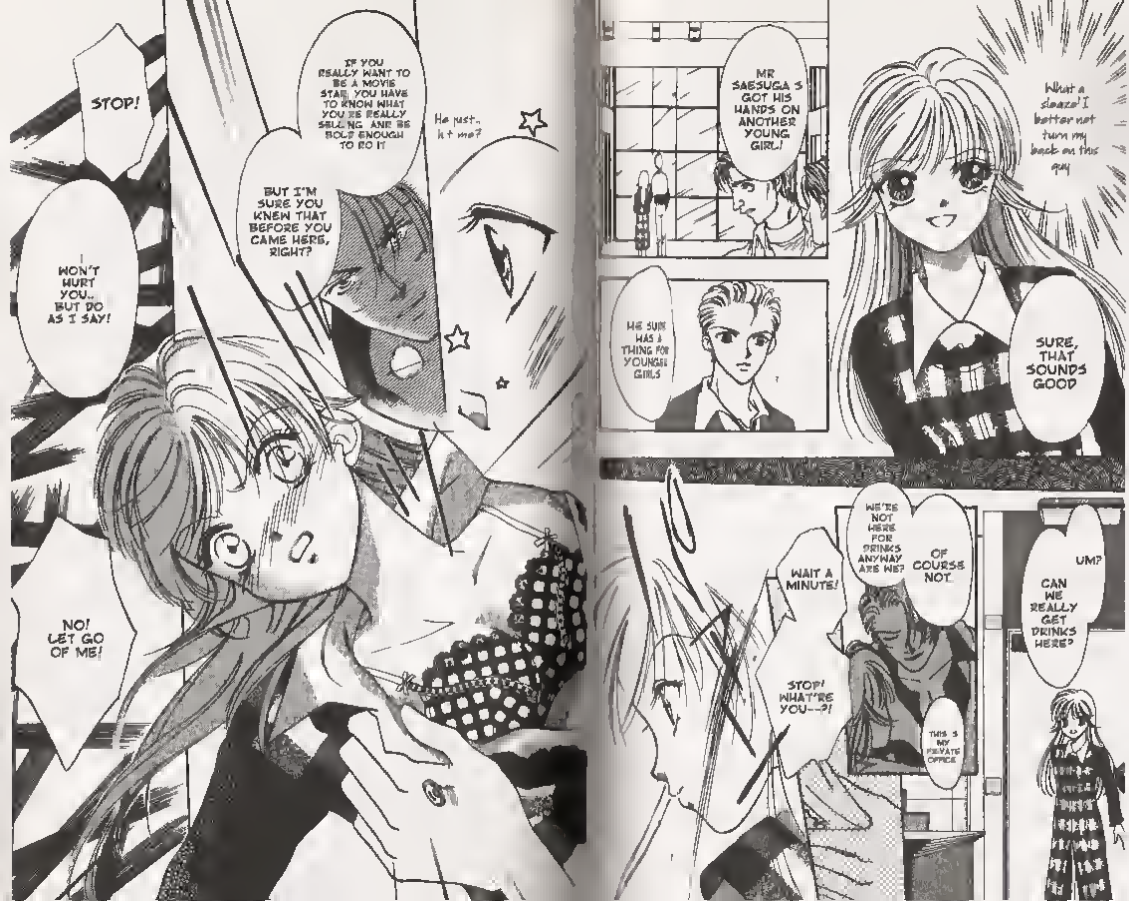

What ?
YOU WERE HALF ASLEEP. I GUESS YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER
NEVERMIND!
Suddenly
KISS ME?
Something about his face right now is

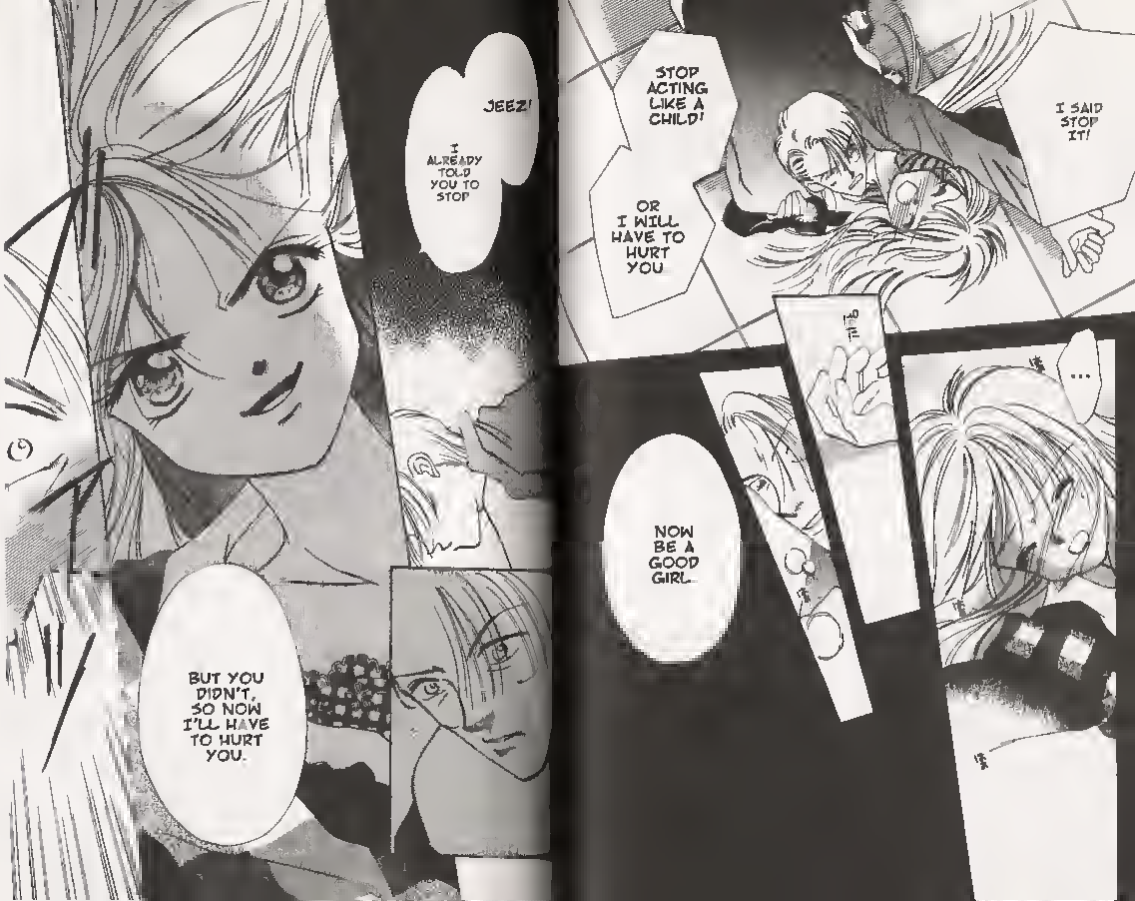
What does the man
WAIT, LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT NOW YOU'RE UPSET WITH ME BECAUSE I DON'T COMPARE YOU TO AKIRA?
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF, YOU LITTLE B-MOVIE BOY?!
WHAT?!
ARE YOU THAT DENSE?! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CONFU-
WHAT? DO I HAVE TO KISS YOU AGAIN TO REMIND YOU?!


Even though I thought his kiss might taste like cigarettes
it actually tasted like those ranch flavored crackers
OH, AKIRA...
フレンチ
サラダ


How could I be so stupid?
And I must've called him Akira when he kissed me!
I can't believe it!
My first kiss was with Ryu!
ARE YOU OKAY?
OH, WHAT'S WRONG?
I remember
ANYWAY, WHATEVER! GO HOME. I DON'T WANNA SEE YOU ANY
WAIT!

I'll figure out what to do about Ryu later.
For now, I need the chance to get close to THIS guy!
Oh, great. He's a dirty old man!
IF YOU LIKE, I CAN GET YOU HIS AUTOGRAPH
OHH, REALLY?! WOW!
HOW OLD ARE YOU NOW?
I'M 15
Pale
YES! I HOPE TO GET AN INTERNSHIP WITH A MOVIE STUDIO FIRST SO I CAN STUDY
SO... YOU WANNA BE A MOVIE STAR?
UNTIL THE NEXT BREAK, WHY DON'T THE TWO OF US GO HAVE SOME TRA?
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE BUSY FILMING AGAIN, HUH?
YOU'RE VERY CUTE. YOU'VE GOT NICE STYLE AND YOU LOOK LIKE A MODEL.
REALLY?! GOSH, THANKS!
OH, NO! I'M FINE!
THIS STUDIO IS PRETTY BIG
ARE YOU LOST?
It's him! The producer, Saequsa!
I JUST SAW RYU EBA OVER THERE
Okay, Yuni, this is the chance you need! So smile!
I'M THE PRODUCER FOR HIS NEXT MOVIE
Really?!
SO YOU'RE A FAN OF RYU EBA?
Oooh... a hush scheme! She's pretty cute, too

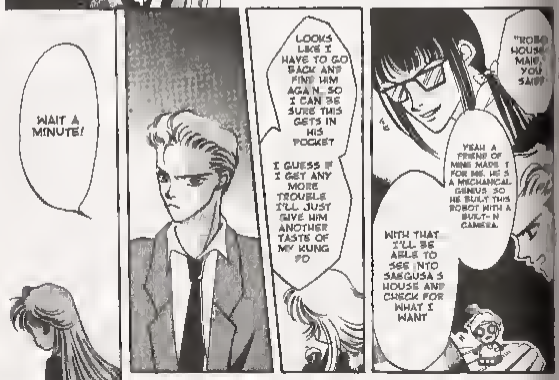

STOP!
I WON'T HURT YOU.. BUT DO AS I SAY!
NO! LET GO OF ME!
IF YOU REALLY WANT TO BE A MOVIE STAR, YOU HAVE TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE REALLY SELLING AND BE BOLD ENOUGH TO DO IT
BUT I'M SURE YOU KNEW THAT BEFORE YOU CAME HERE, RIGHT?
He just.. hit me?
MR SAESUGA'S GOT HIS HANDS ON ANOTHER YOUNG GIRL!
HE SURE HAS A THING FOR YOUNGER GIRLS
What a sleaze! I better not turn my back on this guy
SURE, THAT SOUNDS GOOD
UM?
CAN WE REALLY GET DRINKS HERE?
WE'RE NOT HERE FOR DRINKS ANYWAY ARE WE?
OF COURSE NOT.
THIS IS MY PRIVATE OFFICE
WAIT A MINUTE!
STOP! WHAT'RE YOU---?!


I SAID STOP IT!
STOP ACTING LIKE A CHILD!
OR I WILL HAVE TO HURT YOU
...
NOW BE A GOOD GIRL.
JEEZ!
I ALREADY TOLD YOU TO STOP
BUT YOU DIDN'T, SO NOW I'LL HAVE TO HURT YOU.

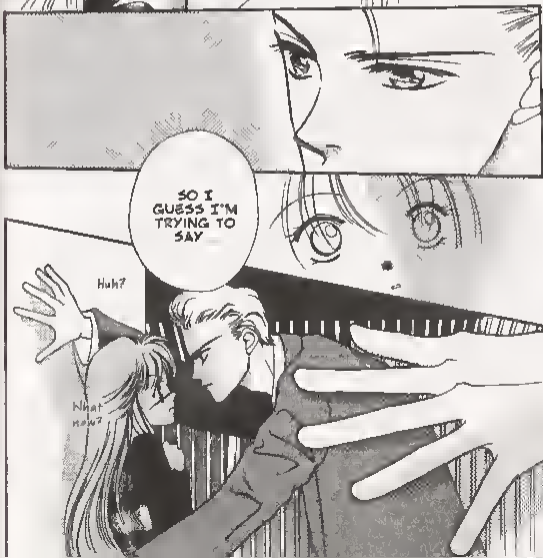
HEY, BABY, DON'T GO TO SLEEP ON ME NOW! WE'RE NOT FINISHED YET!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
THIS IS MY SPECIAL FIGHTING TECHNIQUE, COMBINING KENPO AND KUNG FU ..I CALL IT KUNG PO!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
HOLY
UGH!
HUP! HAIY-AAAH!
WHAT THE?!
YUNIKO SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE OFF WITH THAT GUY SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S FAMOUS FOR AROUND HERE.
HEY! WHAT HAPPENED?!
COME WITH ME!
NO, BUT IF ANYONE FINDS YOU HERE WITH HIM WE'LL HAVE A SCANDAL TO DEAL WITH.
HURRY AND GET OUT OF HERE!
WHY? THAT SLEAZY GUY SURE WON'T TOUCH ME NOW!
YUNIKO!
HAIYAAAH!

I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT I SAID EARLIER
AND ABOUT KISSING YOU... I KNOW IT WAS KINDA WEIRD OF ME TO JUST SHOW UP LIKE THAT AND
HAVE YOU KISSED A LOT OF OTHER GIRLS, TOO?
WH-- NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS! I JUST...
I SAW YOU WEARING JUST THAT NIGHTSHIRT AND I GUESS I GOT CARRIED AWAY SO, YEAH, THAT'S IT
I... I JUST..
YOU JUST...?
AND THEN WHILE I WAS HALF-ASLEEP
OW...
I SAID OW! THAT HURTS DON'T ANK ME AROUND LIKE THAT!
EEEK!!
I WASN'T TRYING TO MUG HIM!
IF I HADN'T FOUGHT BACK, THAT CREEP WOULD'VE HAD HIS WAY WITH ME!
YOU ARE UNBELIEVABLE!
IF YOU'RE GONNA STEAL FROM THE GUY, AT LEAST DO IT QUIETLY!

OH! IT'S MY ROBO HOUSEMAID, ETSUKO!
HEY, YOUR POCKET IS TALKING?
SHOOT! I FORGOT TO PLANT IT ON SAEGUSA WHILE I WAS THERE!
SYSTEM START UP
ACTIV-ATED
COLL-ECTION
READY TO BEGIN...


WAIT A MINUTE!
LOOKS LIKE I HAVE TO GO BACK AND FIND HIM AGAIN. SO I CAN BE SURE THIS GETS IN HIS POCKET
I GUESS IF I GET ANY MORE TROUBLE I'LL JUST GIVE HIM ANOTHER TASTE OF MY KUNG FU
"ROBO-HOUSE-MAID, YOU SAID?
YEAH A FRIEND OF MINE MADE IT FOR ME. HE'S A MECHANICAL GENIUS. SO HE BUILT THIS ROBOT WITH A BUILT-IN CAMERA.
WITH THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE INTO SAEGUSA'S HOUSE AND CHECK FOR WHAT I WANT

That's what happened
I guess on the one hand I don't really blame Ryu
...I GUESS I REALLY DID CALL YOU AKIRA, DIDN'T I?


SO I GUESS I'M TRYING TO SAY
Huh?
What now?

Ryu Eba's Data

His birthday is June 13. Gemini. Blood type: B. He's 17 years old and, even at such a young age, he recently won the Gold Academy Award for Best Male Actor. People say that many things about him are reminiscent of the late actor Akira Nanae

HEIGHT: 5'9"
WEIGHT: 130 pounds

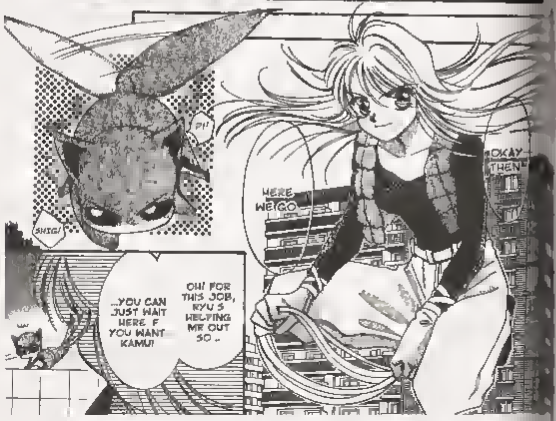
SPECIAL ABILITIES
Amazing Memory (He can memorize an entire movie script in one day)

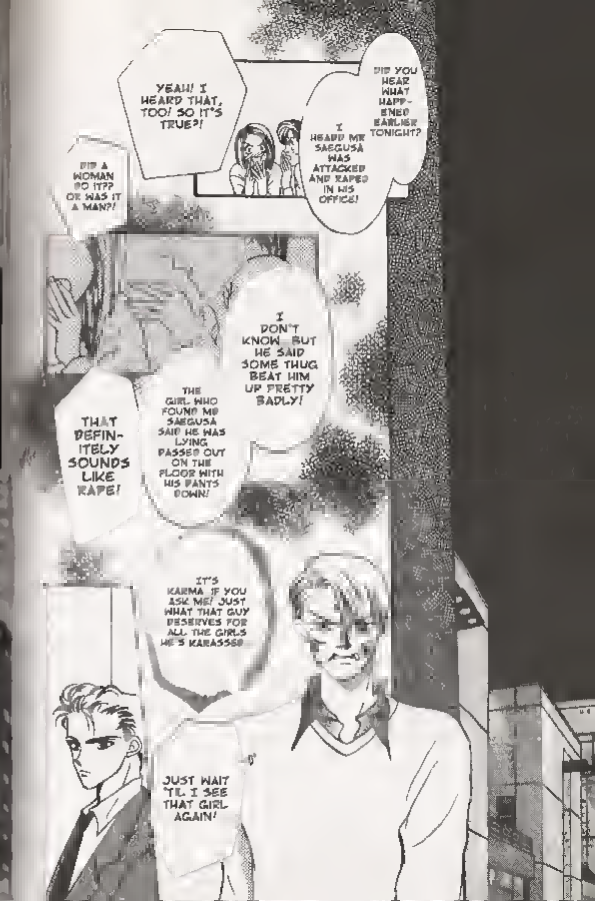
SOMEDAY: He wants to make it big in Hollywood and go on to make movies all over the world.

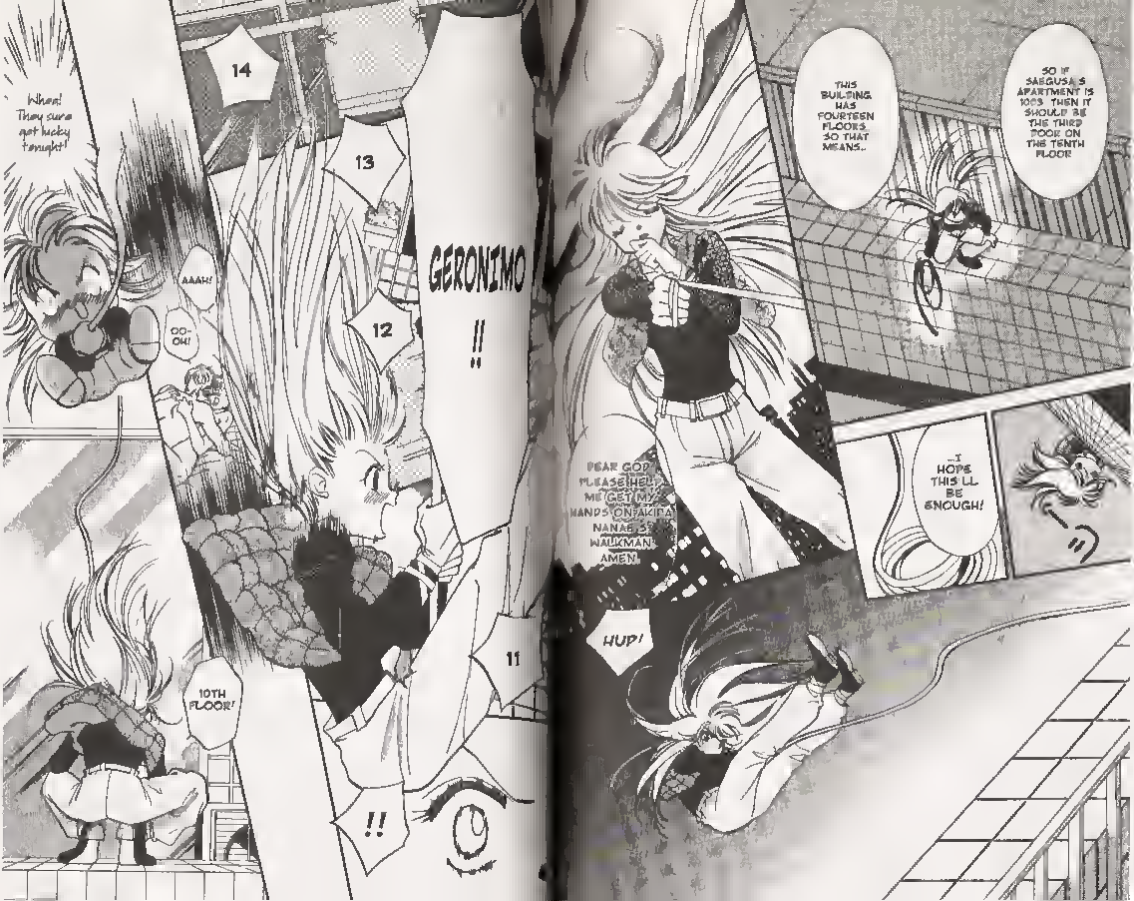
OR IS IT SO YOU CAN STUDY MORE ABOUT BEING A THIEF?
...
WHY ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP ME LIKE THIS?
IS THIS LIKE AN APOLOGY FOR KISSING ME?
I don't really understand this guy.
HERE'S WHERE HE LIVES APARTMENT 1003
YOU DON'T WANT TO JUST PUT THAT THING IN HIS POCKET HE'LL PROBABLY FIND IT AND GET RID OF IT BEFORE IT GETS INTO HIS APARTMENT DON'T YOU THINK?
TRUE YOU'VE GOT A POINT THERE.
SO WHAT ARE YOU STEALING THIS TIME?

I thought for sure he was gonna kiss me!
...REALLY?
OH...
What am I thinking??
I've got a job to do here! I can't be playing around with him!
!
When, when he squints that way, with his hair slicked back like that...
I can't tell him, but...
...he DOES remind me of Akira Nanao
HOLD IT!!
That look makes my heart beat faster!
I WAS JUST GONNA WHISPER TO YOU!
WHAT?!
YOU GO PLANT THE ROBOT IN THE APARTMENT AND WAIT
I'LL GO FIND OUT WHERE THE WALKMAN IS HIDDEN, OKAY?
YEAH, OKAY!

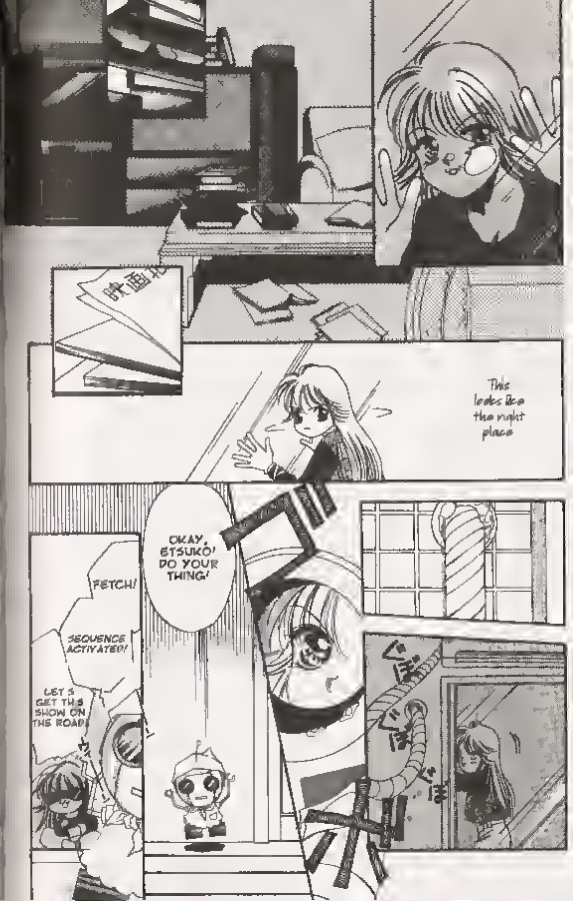
Yumiko's Kung Fu packs the power of four or Horse sweat bush!
OH, ACTUALLY..
..TWO OR THREE GUYS SHOWED UP AT MY OFFICE ALL OF A SUDDEN
I HEARD YOU WERE ATTACKED!..
ARE YOU OKAY?
MR. SAEGUSA!
I HAVE A WHILE BEFORE I'M NEEDED AGAIN. WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET A DRINK?


PI!
SNIGI..
..YOU CAN JUST WAIT HERE F YOU WANT KAMU!
OH! FOR THIS JOB, KYU'S HELPING ME OUT SO..
HERE WE GO
OKAY THEN!


DID YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED EARLIER TONIGHT?
I HEARD MR SAEGUSA WAS ATTACKED AND RAPED IN HIS OFFICE!
YEAH! I HEARD THAT, TOO! SO IT'S TRUE?!
DID A WOMAN DO IT?? OR WAS IT A MAN?!
I DON'T KNOW... BUT HE SAID SOME THUG BEAT HIM UP PRETTY BADLY!
THE GIRL WHO FOUND MR SAEGUSA SAID HE WAS LYING PASSED OUT ON THE FLOOR WITH HIS PANTS DOWN!
THAT DEFINITELY SOUNDS LIKE RAPE!
IT'S KARMA IF YOU ASK ME! JUST WHAT THAT GUY DESERVES FOR ALL THE GIRLS HE'S HARASSED!
JUST WAIT 'TIL I SEE THAT GIRL AGAIN!


When! They sure got lucky tonight!
AAAH!
OO-OH!
10TH FLOOR!
14
13
12
11
GERONIMO
!!
!!
THIS BUILDING HAS FOURTEEN FLOORS. SO THAT MEANS..
SO IF SAEGUSA'S APARTMENT IS 1003 THEN IT SHOULD BE THE THIRD DOOR ON THE TENTH FLOOR
-I HOPE THIS'LL BE ENOUGH!
DEAR GOD PLEASE HELP ME GET MY HANDS ON AKIRA NANASE'S WALKMAN. AMEN.
HUP!

eye-level
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME
CAN YOU REALLY GET HIM TO TELL YOU WHERE THE WALKMAN IS?
I'M HERE, BUT...
RYU! LOUD AND CLEAR
ARE YOU ALL SET?
YUNIKO CAN YOU HEAR ME?
What's he planning to do anyway?
...I KNOW YOU THINK I'M A LOT LIKE AKIRA NANAE, DON'T YOU?
MR SAEGUSA
BY THE WAY, DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANTED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT? I MEAN WHEN YOU OFFERED TO HAVE A DRINK?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SERVE ME, RYU
HOW ABOUT A CUP OF COFFEE?


This looks like the right place
OKAY, ETSUKO! DO YOUR THING!
FETCH!
SEQUENCE ACTIVATED!
LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!
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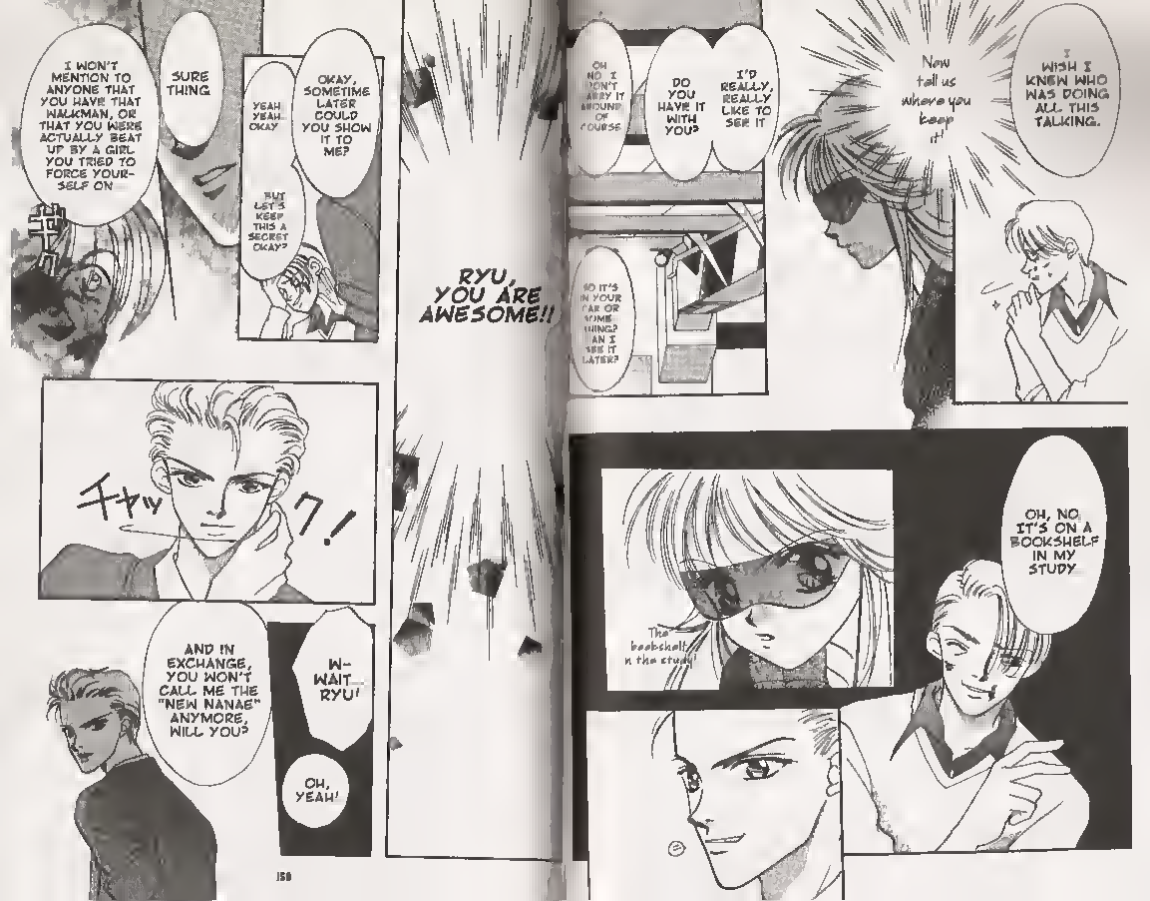
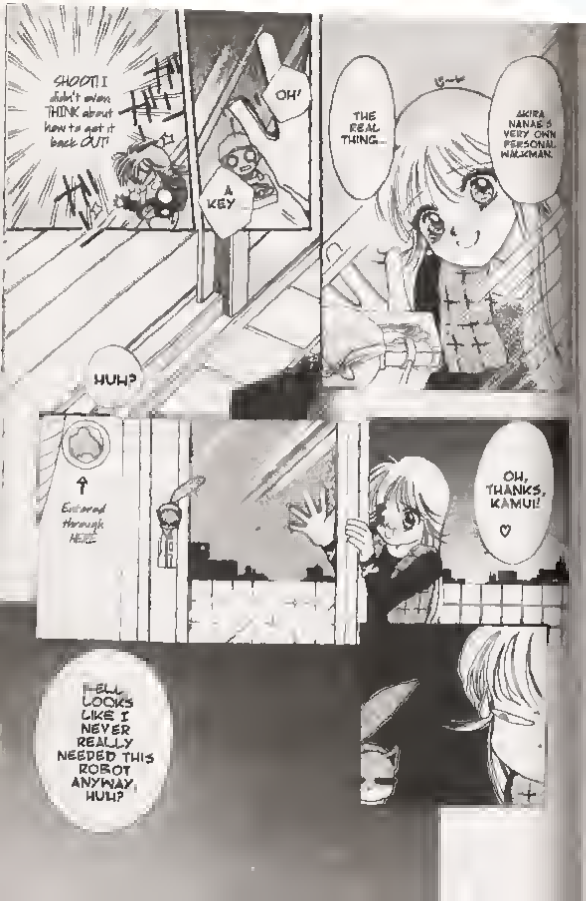
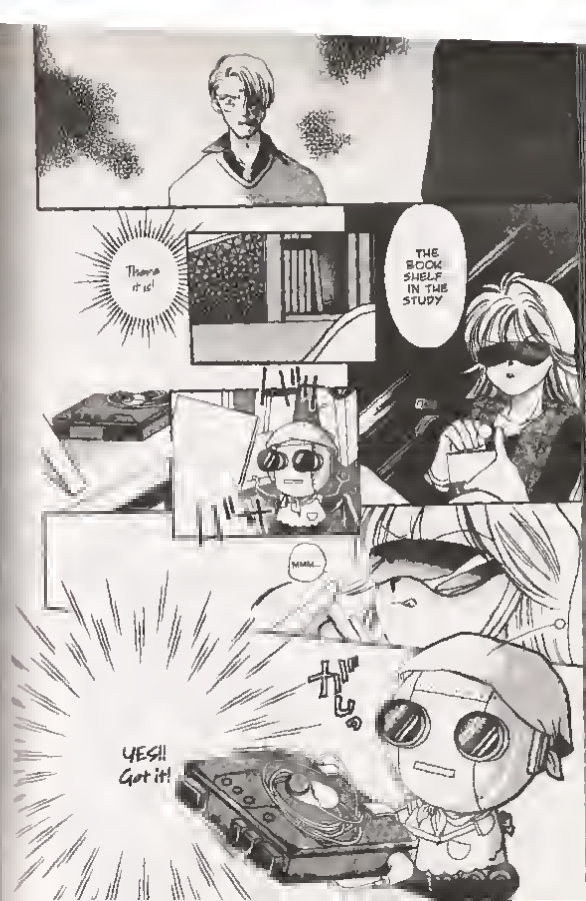
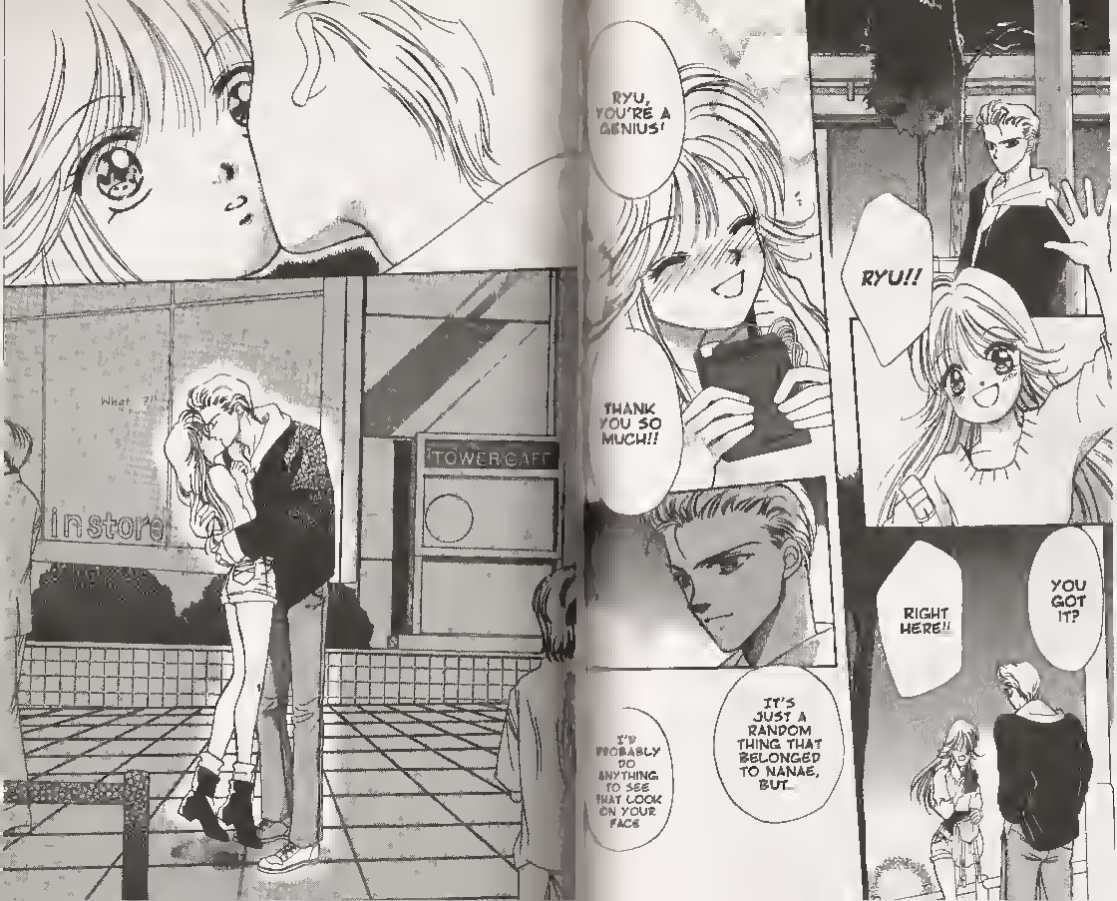
NOT ONLY IN JAPAN, BUT ALL OVER THE WORLD...HE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS IN HOLLYWOOD, TOO, RIGHT?
OF COURSE! THERE ISN'T AN ACTOR IN THE WORLD WHO DOESN'T REMEMBER HIM!
He DID win the award for Best Actor after all!
Hikkiman was incredible, wasn't he?
Wow!
WHO TOLD YOU THAT?
!!
HUH?
I FORGOT WHO, BUT I REMEMBER THEY SAID IT WAS A BLUE MINI FROM 1951
...I HEARD YOU HAVE THE WALKMAN THAT AKIRA NANAE USED TO LISTEN TO EVERYDAY IS THAT TRUE?!
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT...

WHAT'S THIS NOW? I FIGURE! THE YOUNG MAN WHO TOOK THE AWARD FOR BEST ACTOR WAS SPECIAL. BUT HE'S GOT A NICE LITTLE BOTTOM. QUITE A CUTIE, ISN'T HE?
WELL, YOU WORKED WITH HIM ONCE, DIDN'T YOU?
WHAT, ARE YOU STILL THINKING ABOUT WHAT I SAID EARLIER TODAY?
What?
IF A BIGTIME PRODUCER LIKE YOU SAYS SO, THEN I GUESS IT'S TRUE...
TELL ME...
WHAT KIND OF ACTOR WAS AKIRA?
Everyone who once enjoyed acting with him loved him! We all remember him fondly.
Whoa, wait a sec!
BUT TRYING TO FILL HIS SHOES IS A REALLY BIG DEAL, YOU KNOW?
OF COURSE IT'S THE TRUTH, RYU! YOU'RE A LOT LIKE THE GREAT NANAE!
IS this the same Ryu that detests just hearing the NAME Nanae?!

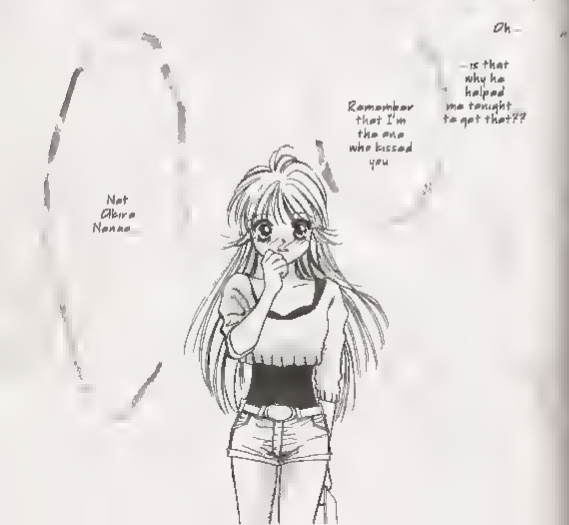

I WON'T MENTION TO ANYONE THAT YOU HAVE THAT WALKMAN, OR THAT YOU WERE ACTUALLY BEAT UP BY A GIRL YOU TRIED TO FORCE YOURSELF ON
SURE THING
OKAY, SOMETIME LATER COULD YOU SHOW IT TO ME?
YEAH YEAH OKAY
BUT LET'S KEEP THIS A SECRET OKAY?
RYU, YOU ARE AWESOME!!
OH NO I DON'T CARRY IT AROUND OF COURSE
DO YOU HAVE IT WITH YOU?
I'D REALLY, REALLY LIKE TO SEE IT
SO IT'S IN YOUR CAR OR SOME THING? AN I SEE IT LATER?
Now tell us where you keep it!
I WISH I KNEW WHO WAS DOING ALL THIS TALKING.
チャッ
ク!
AND IN EXCHANGE, YOU WON'T CALL ME THE "NEW NANAE" ANYMORE, WILL YOU?
W-WAIT... RYU!
OH, YEAH!
The bookshelf in the study
OH, NO IT'S ON A BOOKSHELF IN MY STUDY

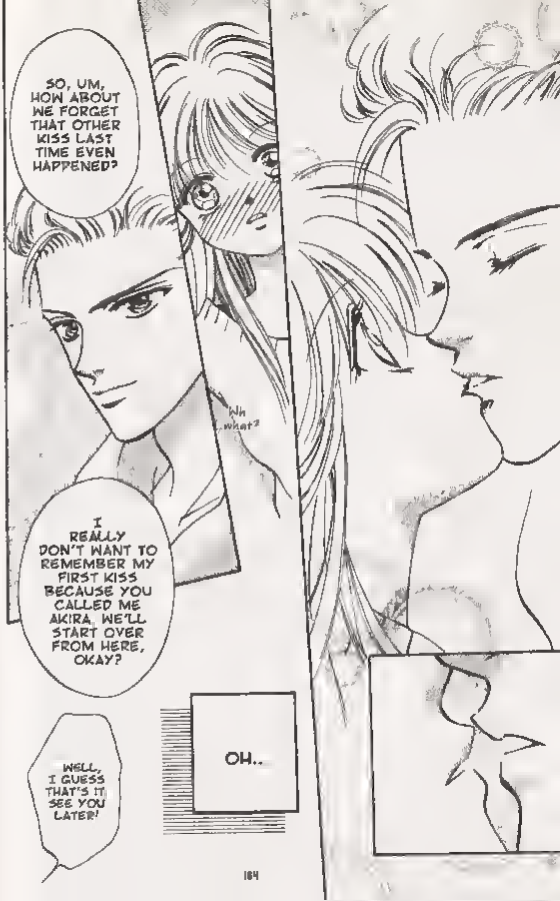

SHOOT! I didn't even THINK about how to get it back OUT!
OH!
A KEY
THE REAL THING...
AKIRA NANASE'S VERY OWN PERSONAL WALKMAN.
HUH?
Entered through HERE
OH, THANKS, KAMUI! ♡
WELL, LOOKS LIKE I NEVER REALLY NEEDED THIS ROBOT ANYWAY, HUH?


There it is!
THE BOOK SHELF IN THE STUDY
YES!! Got it!


What ?!!
TOWER CAFE
RYU, YOU'RE A GENIUS!
THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
I'D PROBABLY DO ANYTHING TO SEE THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE
IT'S JUST A RANDOM THING THAT BELONGED TO NANAE, BUT...
RYU!!
YOU GOT IT?
RIGHT HERE!!

Wow, I was his first kiss, too?!
He said his first kiss was...


Oh...
...is that why he helped me tonight to get that??
Remember that I'm the one who kissed you
Not Akira Nanno...


SO, UM, HOW ABOUT WE FORGET THAT OTHER KISS LAST TIME EVEN HAPPENED?
Wh ..what?
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO REMEMBER MY FIRST KISS BECAUSE YOU CALLED ME AKIRA. WE'LL START OVER FROM HERE, OKAY?
WELL, I GUESS THAT'S IT. SEE YOU LATER!
OH..

I'd usually be celebrating after adding a new page to my collection, but then I'd want and kiss someone like that...
But you were able to GET that Walkman thanks to my help, right?
Got out of my head you!
Oh, wait...
I guess after a kiss like that, I can't stop thinking about him
I can't get him out of my head now
So um... now about we forgot that other kiss last time even happened?
I really don't want to remember that my first kiss because you called me Okra. We'll start over from there, okay?

Kamui's Data

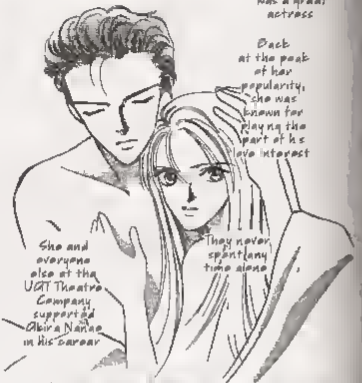
He's a Honshu Flying Squirrel born in the spring of last year. He's almost one now. Shortly after he was born, he fell from a tree and Yuniko found him. She decided to raise him herself because the forest where he was born was being turned into a golf course.

HEIGHT: 7 cm (including his tail: 15 cm)

WEIGHT: 1 pound

SPECIAL ABILITIES: Gliding

SOMEDAY: His dream is to reforest Central Japan, and then the whole world!

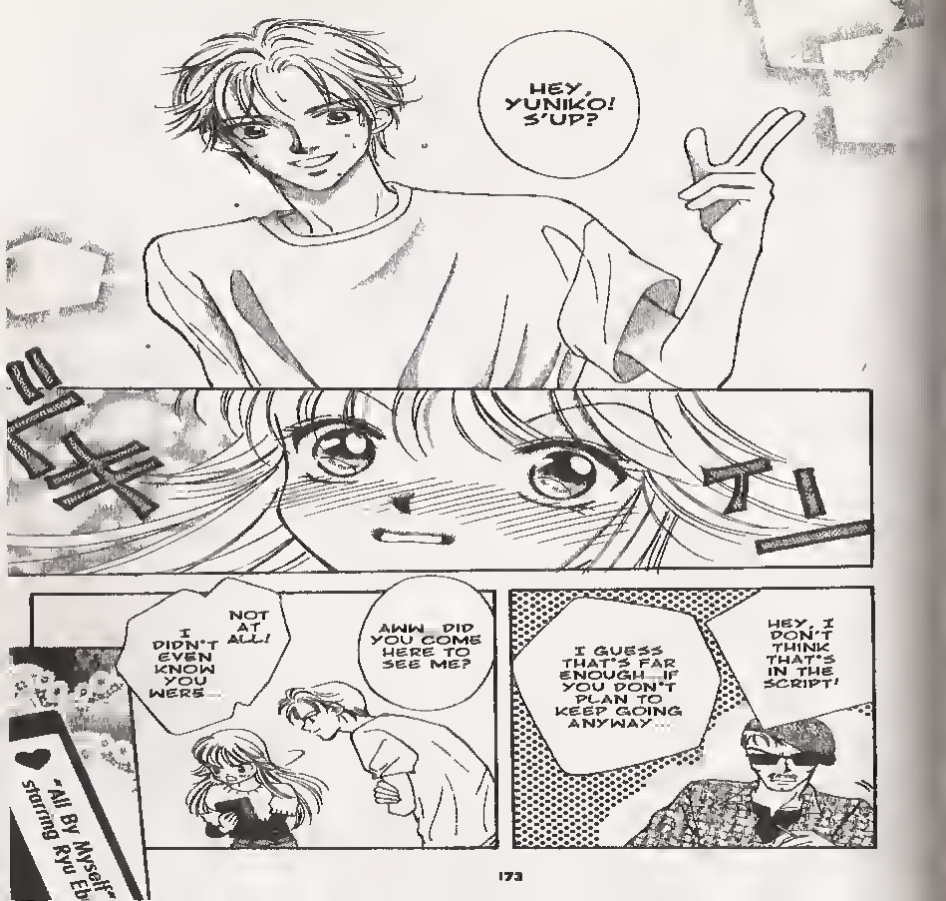

Everyone who knew her called her Meiko Sakura. They say she was a great actress.
Back at the peak of her popularity, she was known for playing the part of his love interest.
She and everyone else at the UGT Theatre Company supported Akira Nanao in his career.
They never spent any time alone.

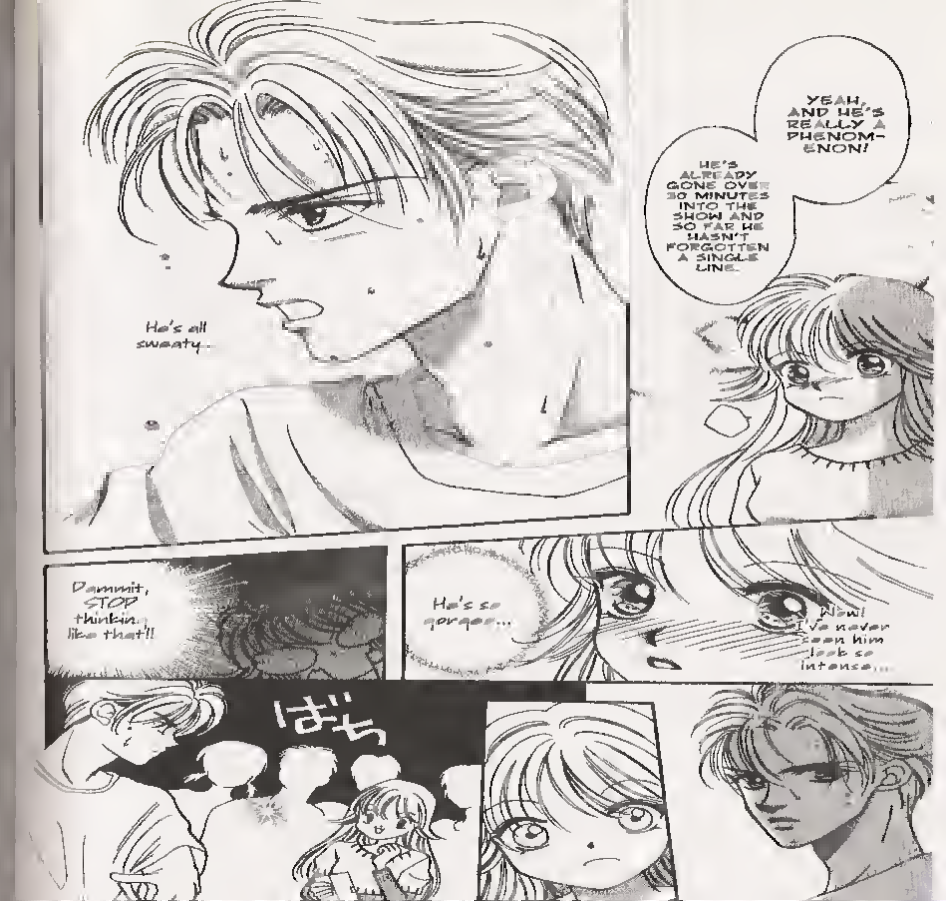
But then when I came along...

This is NOT the time to be lost and daydreaming!
This guy and my secret life as a Nanao maniac don't go well together. I have a serious decision to make here.
Be serious, Yumiko!
Before Akira Nanao went to Hollywood, he made many movies in Japan.
Mama...

YUNI, YOU'RE HERE?!
SANAE! WHY IS RYU HERE?!
Wh--what is he doing here?!
No way!
OH, HE DECIDED TO JOIN THE PRODUCTION.
LIKE A SCRIPT MEMORY TEST?
SO TODAY HE'S STARTED LEARNING THE SCRIPT...
MR TAKAO FROM THE PRODUCTION HOUSE ASKED HIM TO DO AS MUCH OF THE SHOW AS HE CAN REMEMBER JUST FROM WHAT HE READ SO FAR

UAT
GOOD MORNING!
WHAT'S EVERY-BODY DOING?
IT'S BECAUSE RYU EBA'S HERE!
HEY, YUNI!
I'll return this movie I borrowed to Sanae today
That's a start to getting Ryu off my mind.
"Still By Myself" starring Ryu Eba


HEY, YUNIKO! S'UP?
NOT AT ALL! I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU WERE...
AWW... DID YOU COME HERE TO SEE ME?
I GUESS THAT'S FAR ENOUGH—IF YOU DON'T PLAN TO KEEP GOING ANYWAY...
HEY, I DON'T THINK THAT'S IN THE SCRIPT!
"All By Myself" starring Ryu Ed


He's all sweaty...
YEAH, AND HE'S REALLY A PHENOM-ENON!
HE'S ALREADY GONE OVER 30 MINUTES INTO THE SHOW AND SO FAR HE HASN'T FORGOTTEN A SINGLE LINE.
Dammit, STOP thinkin... like that!!
He's so gorgee...
Wow! I've never seen him look so intense...
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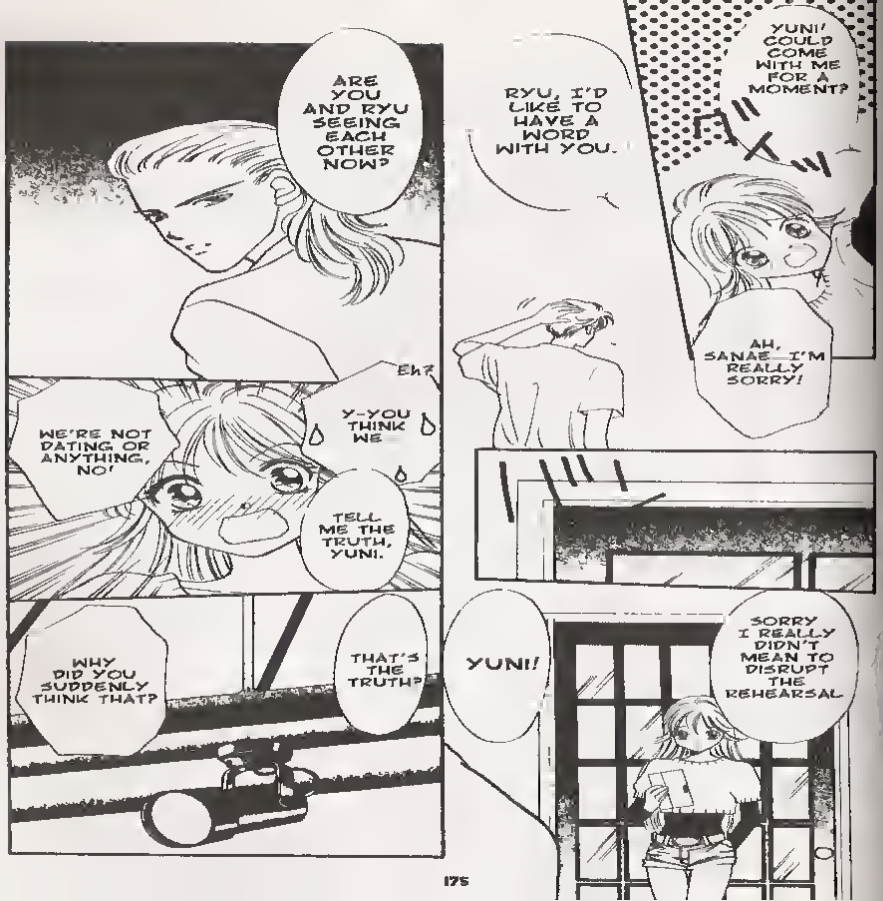
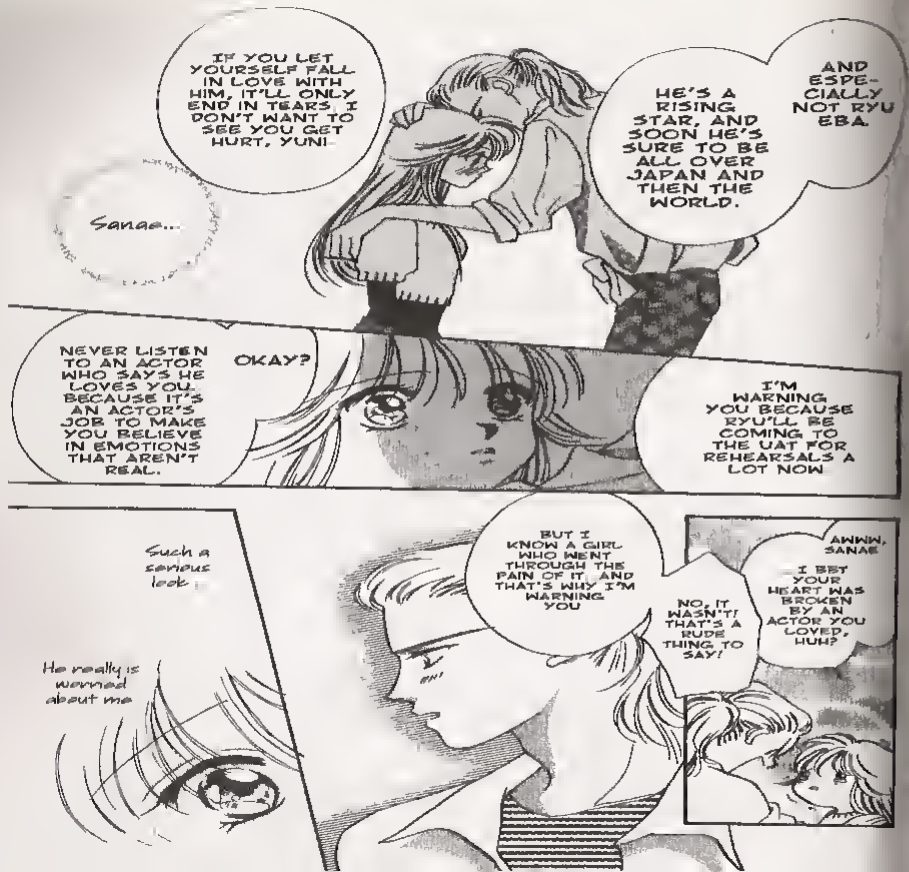
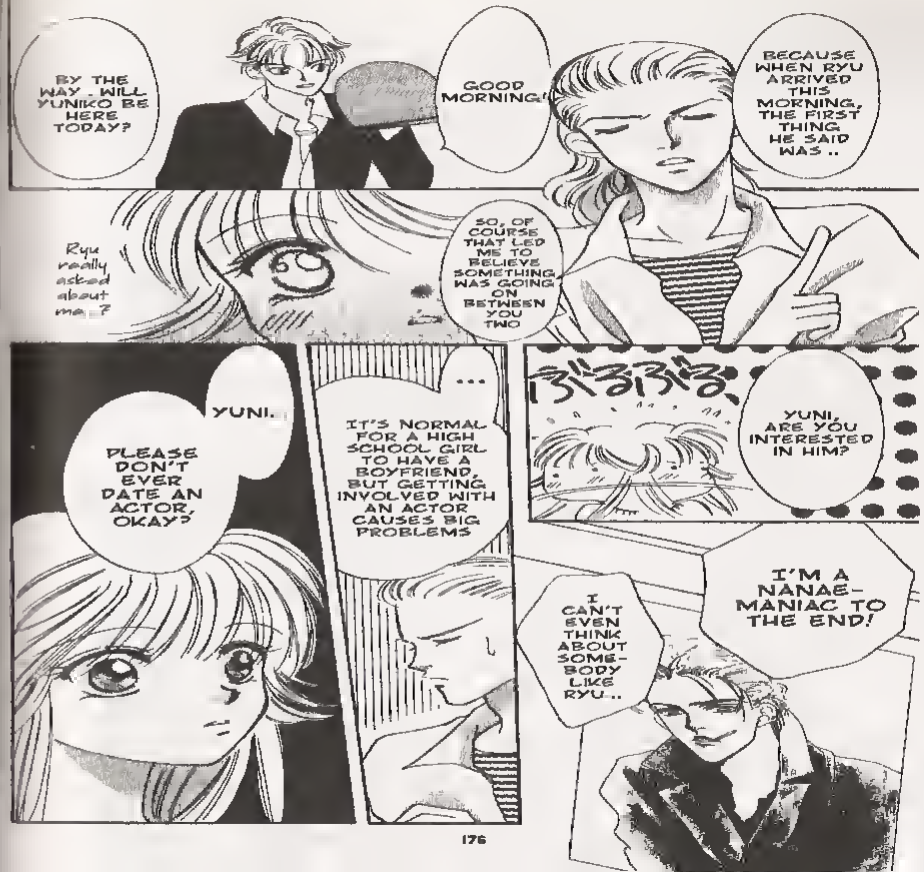
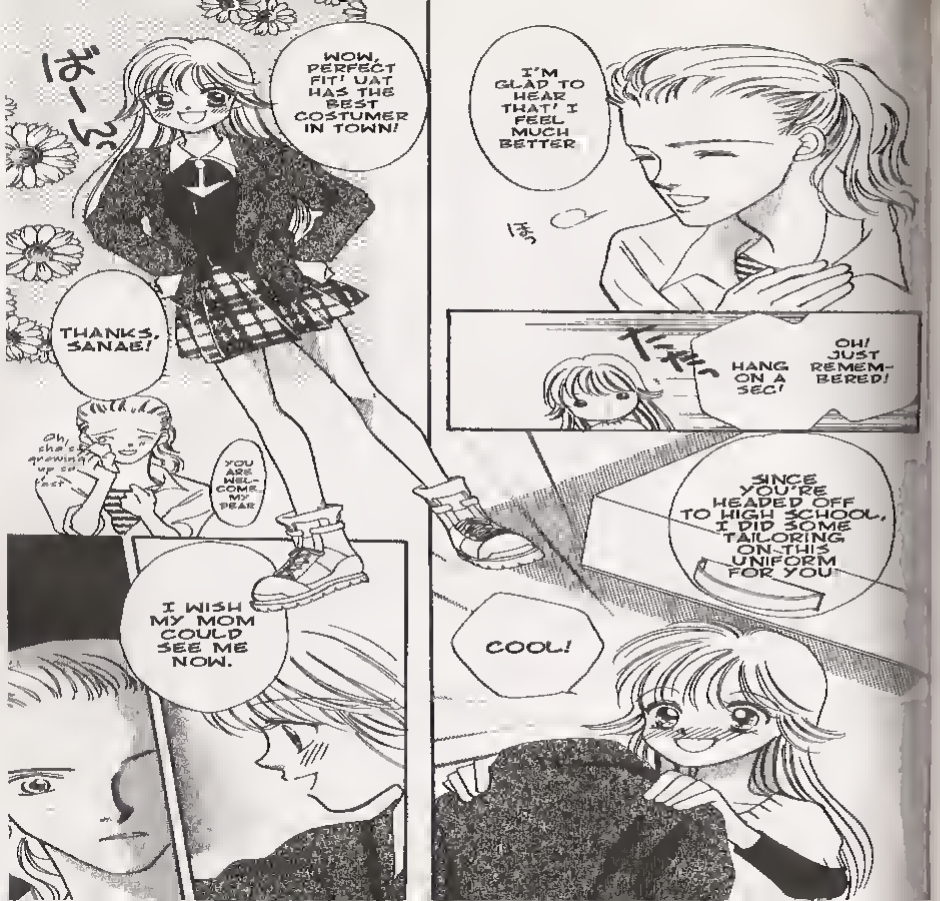

ARE YOU AND RYU SEEING EACH OTHER NOW?
Eh?
WE'RE NOT DATING OR ANYTHING, NO!
Y-YOU THINK WE
TELL ME THE TRUTH, YUNI.
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY THINK THAT?
THAT'S THE TRUTH?
RYU, I'D LIKE TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOU.
YUNI! COULD COME WITH ME FOR A MOMENT?
AH, SANAE... I'M REALLY SORRY!
YUNI!
SORRY I REALLY DIDN'T MEAN TO DISRUPT THE REHEARSAL

THAT'S NOT MY VIDEO!
it's not what you think.
hee hee hee
IT'S SANAE'S I WAS JUST.
NO, UM... THAT'S, UH..
HEH HEH GO ON AHEAD, EVERYBODY NOTHING TO SEE HERE!
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! YOU SAID YOU WANNA STUDY STEEL-- WORKING, RIGHT?!
I ONLY WATCHED IT SO I COULD STUDY HOW TO STEAL THAT AWARD FROM--


IF YOU LET YOURSELF FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM, IT'LL ONLY END IN TEARS. I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU GET HURT, YUNI.
HE'S A RISING STAR, AND SOON HE'S SURE TO BE ALL OVER JAPAN AND THEN THE WORLD.
AND ESPECIALLY NOT RYU EBA.
Sanae...
NEVER LISTEN TO AN ACTOR WHO SAYS HE LOVES YOU. BECAUSE IT'S AN ACTOR'S JOB TO MAKE YOU BELIEVE IN EMOTIONS THAT AREN'T REAL.
OKAY?
I'M WARNING YOU BECAUSE RYU'LL BE COMING TO THE UAT FOR REHEARSALS A LOT NOW
Such a serious look
He really is worried about me
BUT I KNOW A GIRL WHO WENT THROUGH THE PAIN OF IT AND THAT'S WHY I'M WARNING YOU
NO, IT WASN'T! THAT'S A RUDE THING TO SAY!
AWWW, SANAE
I BET YOUR HEART WAS BROKEN BY AN ACTOR YOU LOVED, HUH?


BY THE WAY. WILL YUNIKO BE HERE TODAY?
GOOD MORNING!
BECAUSE WHEN RYU ARRIVED THIS MORNING, THE FIRST THING HE SAID WAS..
Ryu really asked about me..?
SO, OF COURSE THAT LED ME TO BELIEVE SOMETHING WAS GOING ON BETWEEN YOU TWO
YUNI.
PLEASE DON'T EVER DATE AN ACTOR, OKAY?
...
IT'S NORMAL FOR A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL TO HAVE A BOYFRIEND, BUT GETTING INVOLVED WITH AN ACTOR CAUSES BIG PROBLEMS
YUNI, ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HIM?
I CAN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT SOMEBODY LIKE RYU..
I'M A NANAE-MANIAC TO THE END!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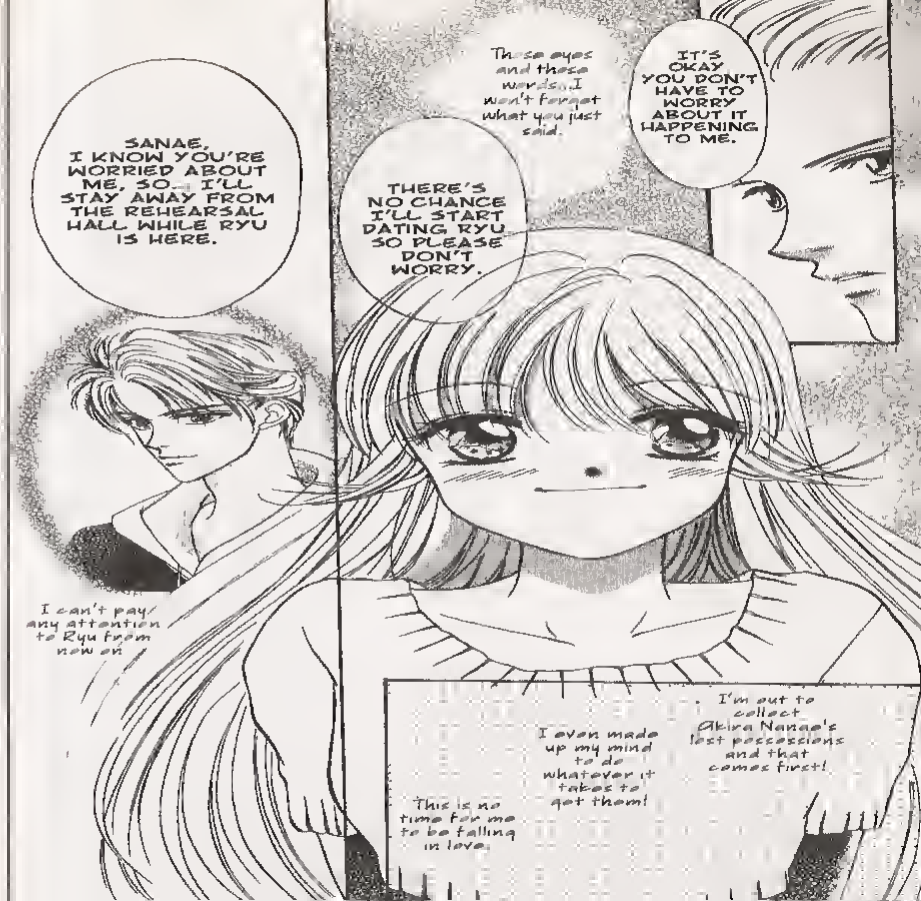
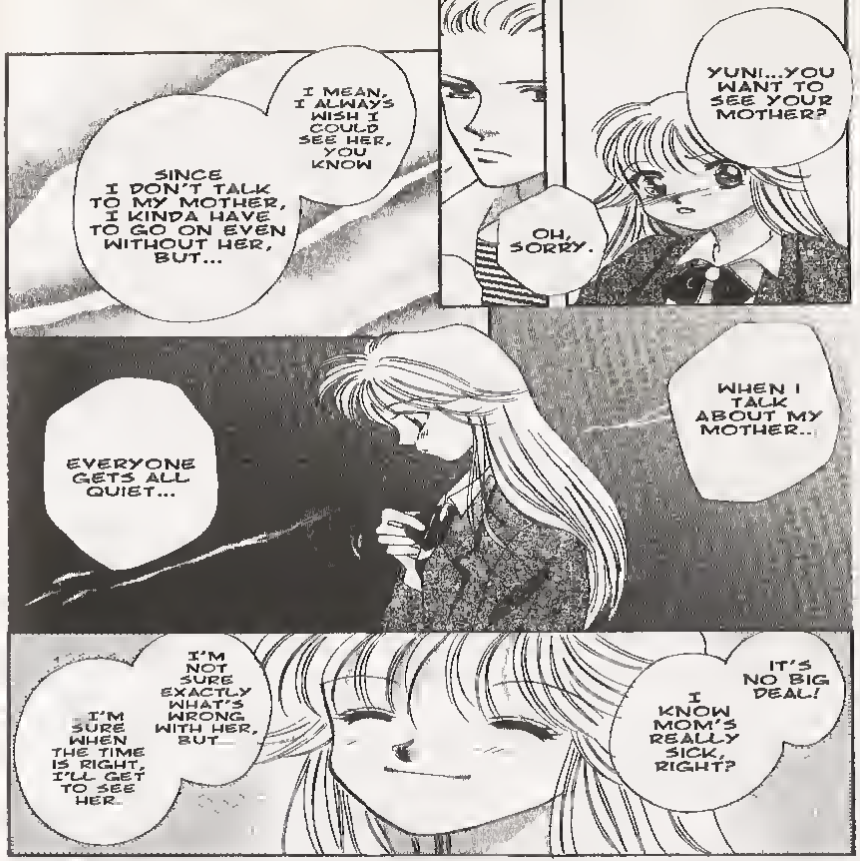
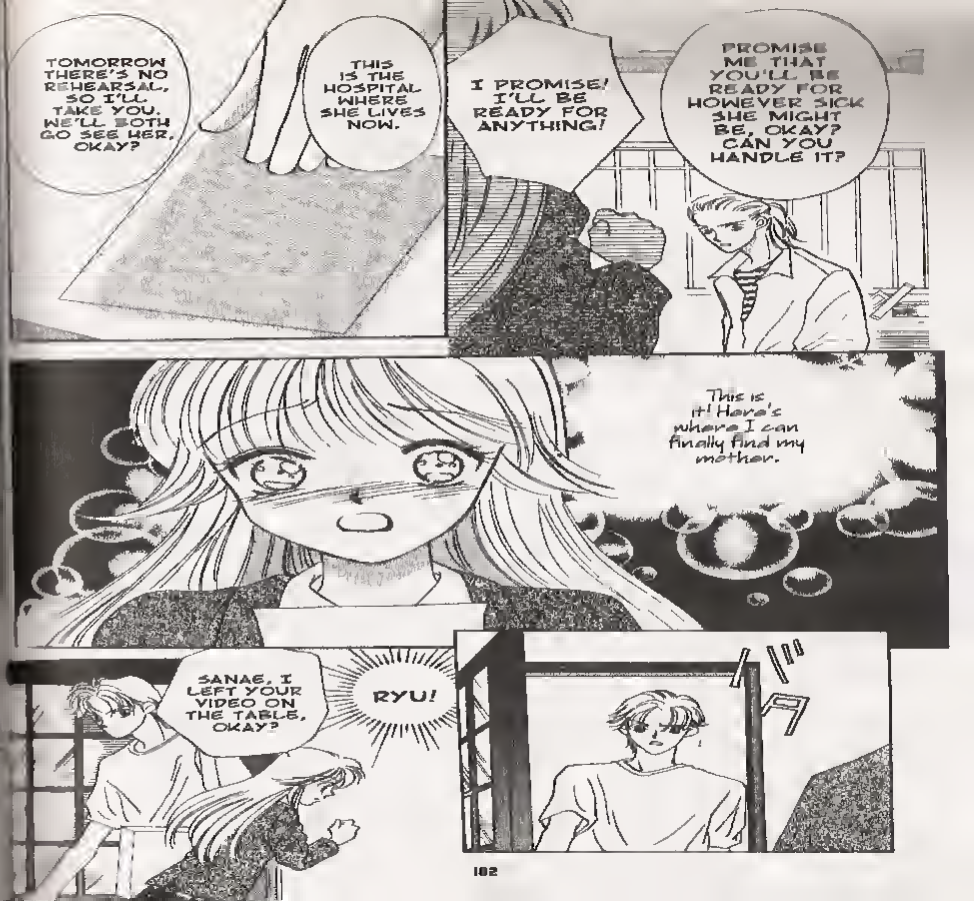
WOW, PERFECT FIT! UAT HAS THE BEST COSTUMER IN TOWN!
THANKS, SANAE!
Oh, she's growing up so fast.
YOU ARE WELCOME, MY DEAR
I WISH MY MOM COULD SEE ME NOW.
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT! I FEEL MUCH BETTER
ほっ
HANG ON A SEC!
OH! JUST REMEMBERED!
SINCE YOU'RE HEADED OFF TO HIGH SCHOOL, I DID SOME TAILORING ON THIS UNIFORM FOR YOU
COOL!

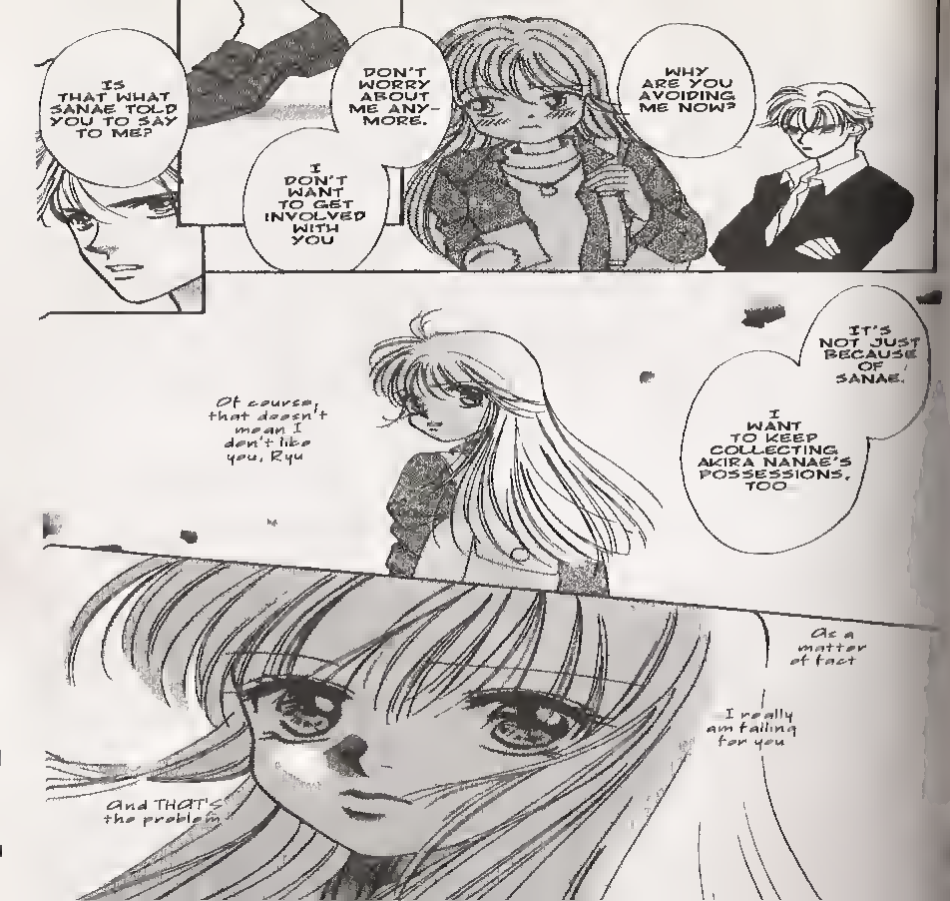

SANAE, I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT ME. SO... I'LL STAY AWAY FROM THE REHEARSAL HALL WHILE RYU IS HERE.
I can't pay any attention to Ryu from now on
THERE'S NO CHANCE I'LL START DATING RYU SO PLEASE DON'T WORRY.
IT'S OKAY YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IT HAPPENING TO ME.
Those eyes and these words... I won't forget what you just said.
This is no time for me to be falling in love.
I even made up my mind to do whatever it takes to get them!
I'm out to collect Akira Nanao's lost possessions and that comes first!

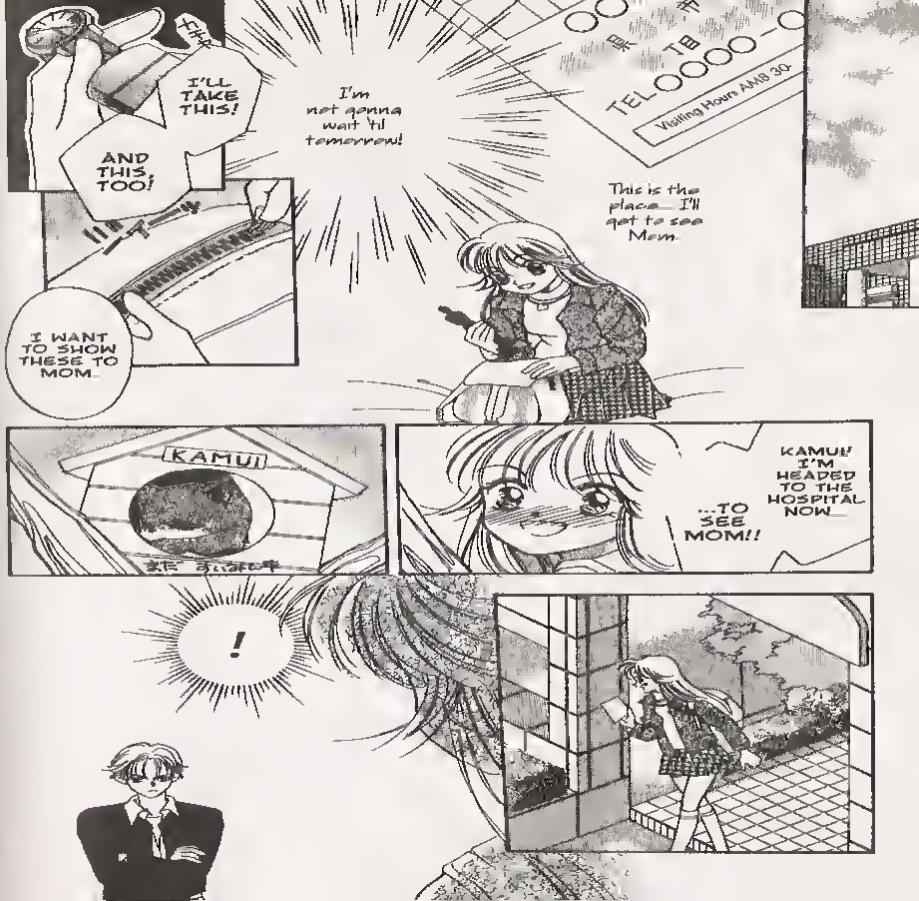
R-REALLY??
YUNI, THE TRUTH IS...
...
WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, WE DIDN'T WANT TO WORRY YOU WITH YOUR MOTHER'S ILLNESS BUT...
IF YOU WANT TO SEE HER, YOU CAN...
...IF YOU JUST WANT TO SEE HER FACE, WE CAN DO THAT
IN FACT, THIS MIGHT BE THE RIGHT TIME FOR YOU TO MEET HER.
My mother...I'll finally get to see her?!

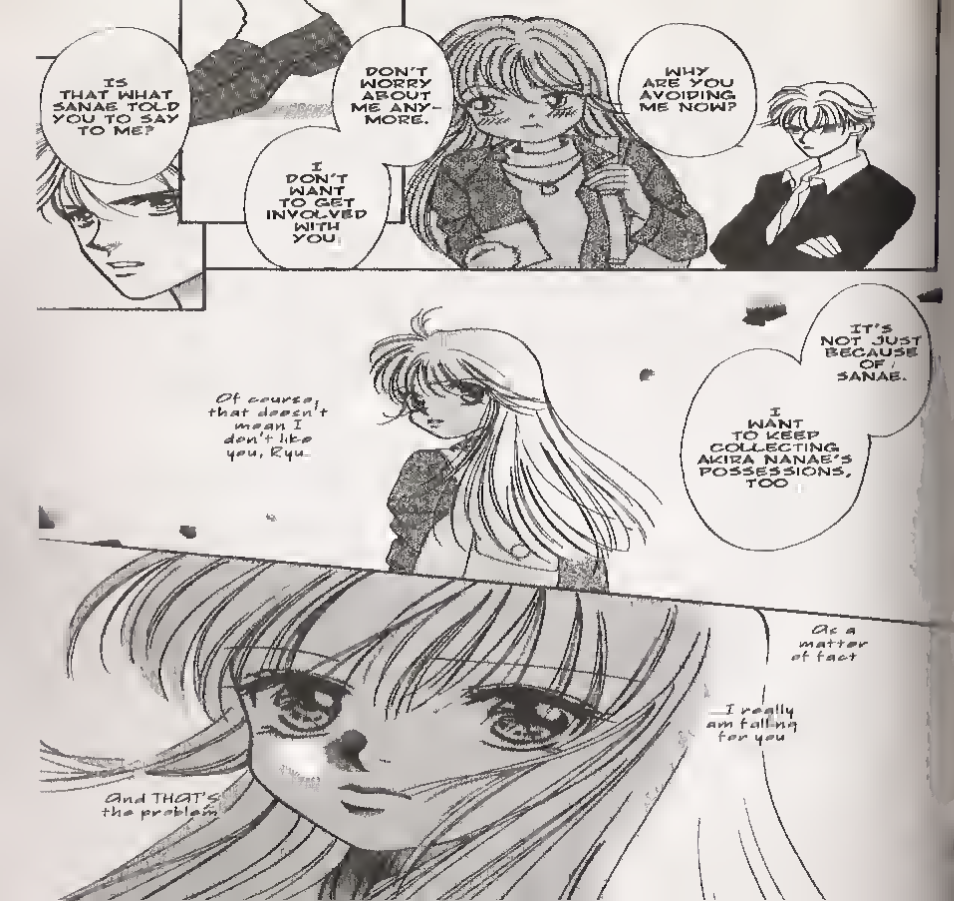

YUNI...YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR MOTHER?
OH, SORRY.
I MEAN, I ALWAYS WISH I COULD SEE HER, YOU KNOW
SINCE I DON'T TALK TO MY MOTHER, I KINDA HAVE TO GO ON EVEN WITHOUT HER, BUT...
WHEN I TALK ABOUT MY MOTHER...
EVERYONE GETS ALL QUIET...
IT'S NO BIG DEAL! I KNOW MOM'S REALLY SICK, RIGHT?
I'M NOT SURE EXACTLY WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER, BUT...
I'M SURE WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT, I'LL GET TO SEE HER.

DON'T GO CHASING AFTER YUNI.
I DON'T WANT HER GETTING INVOLVED WITH ANY OF THE ACTORS.
I TOLD YOU BEFORE, SHE'S VERY IMPORTANT TO UAT AND TO ME.
HEY, YUNI!
RYU. DO ME A FAVOR, WILL YOU?
OOOOH! THAT LOOK MAKES ME WEAK!
...


TOMORROW THERE'S NO REHEARSAL, SO I'LL TAKE YOU. WE'LL BOTH GO SEE HER, OKAY?
THIS IS THE HOSPITAL WHERE SHE LIVES NOW.
I PROMISE! I'LL BE READY FOR ANYTHING!
PROMISE ME THAT YOU'LL BE READY FOR HOWEVER SICK SHE MIGHT BE, OKAY? CAN YOU HANDLE IT?
This is it! Here's where I can finally find my mother.
SANAE, I LEFT YOUR VIDEO ON THE TABLE, OKAY?
RYU!


IS THAT WHAT SANAE TOLD YOU TO SAY TO ME?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME ANY-MORE.
I DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH YOU
WHY ARE YOU AVOIDING ME NOW?
IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE OF SANAE.
I WANT TO KEEP COLLECTING AKIRA NANAE'S POSSESSIONS, TOO
Of course, that doesn't mean I don't like you, Ryu
And THAT'S the problem
As a matter of fact
I really am falling for you


I'LL TAKE THIS!
AND THIS, TOO!
I'm not gonna wait 'til tomorrow!
TEL-0000-0
Visiting Hours AM10-3P
This is the place... I'll get to see Mom...
I WANT TO SHOW THESE TO MOM...
KAMUI
...TO SEE MOM!!
KAMUI! I'M HEADED TO THE HOSPITAL NOW...
!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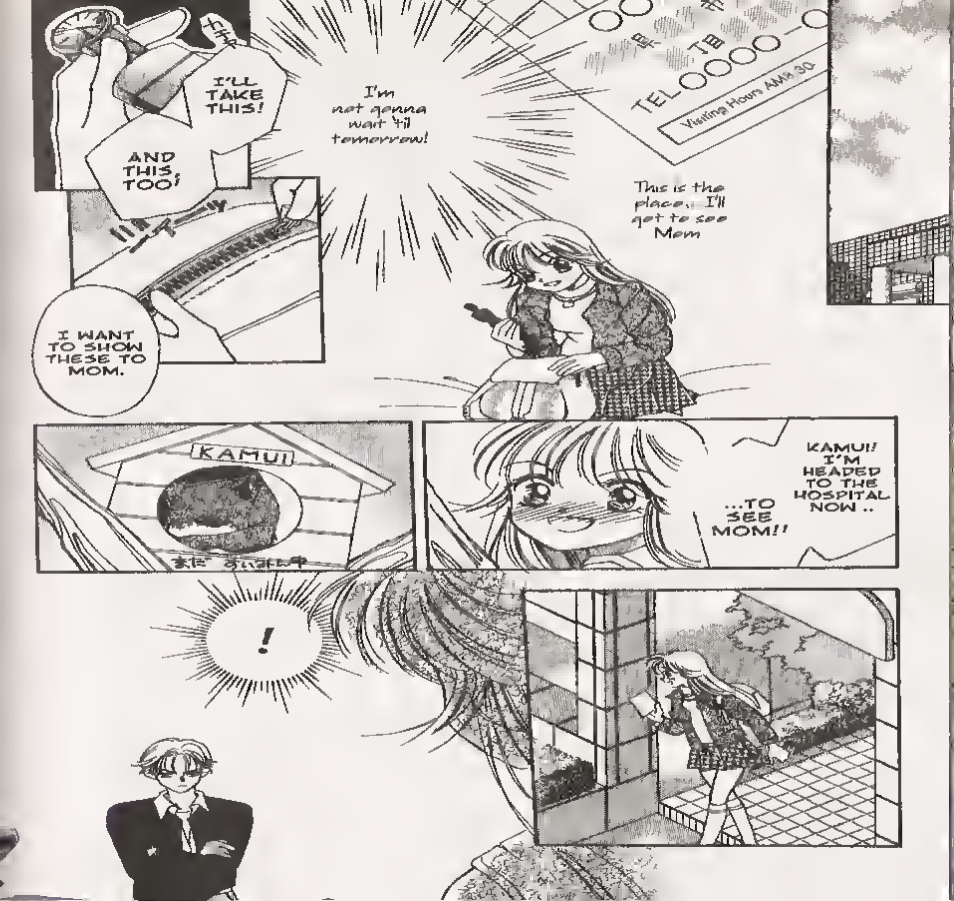
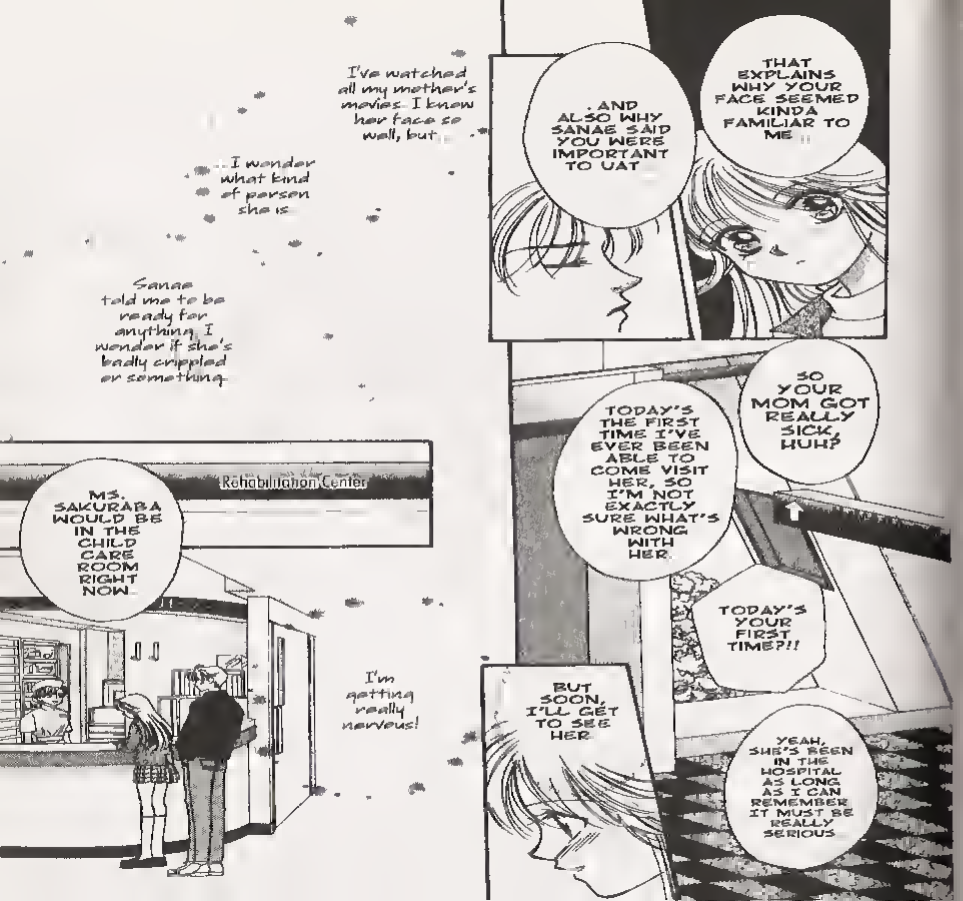
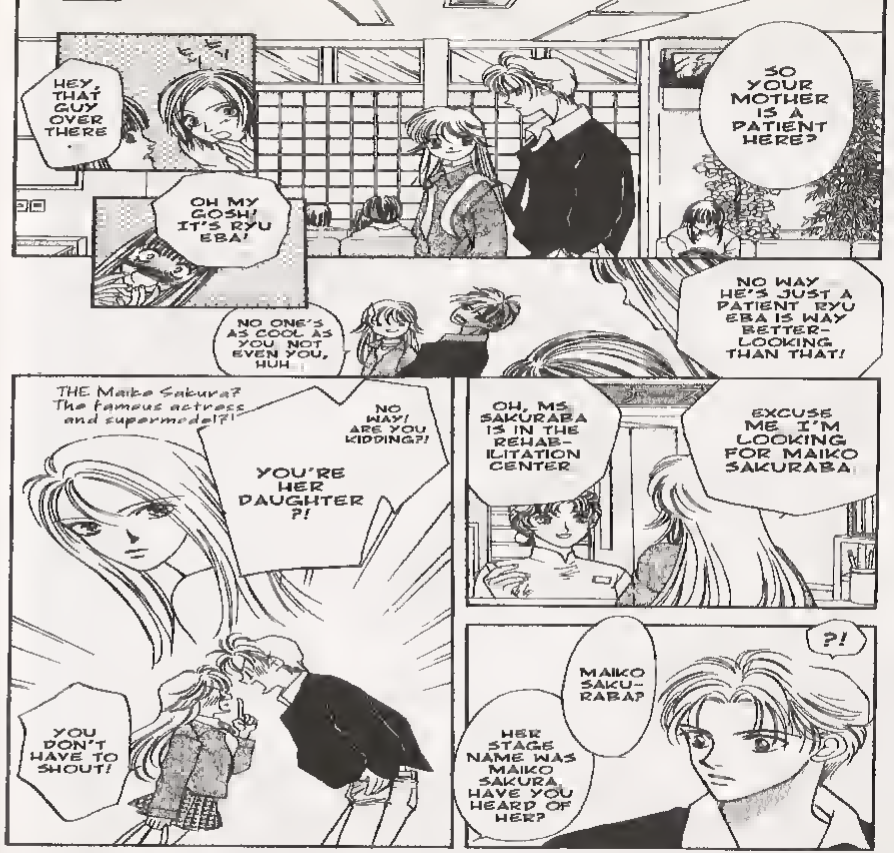

I'LL TAKE THIS!
AND THIS, TOO!
I'm not gonna wait 'til tomorrow!
TEL OOOO-O
Visiting Hours AM10-30
This is the place... I'll get to see Mom
I WANT TO SHOW THESE TO MOM.
KAMUI
KAMUI! I'M HEADED TO THE HOSPITAL NOW ..
..TO SEE MOM!!
!

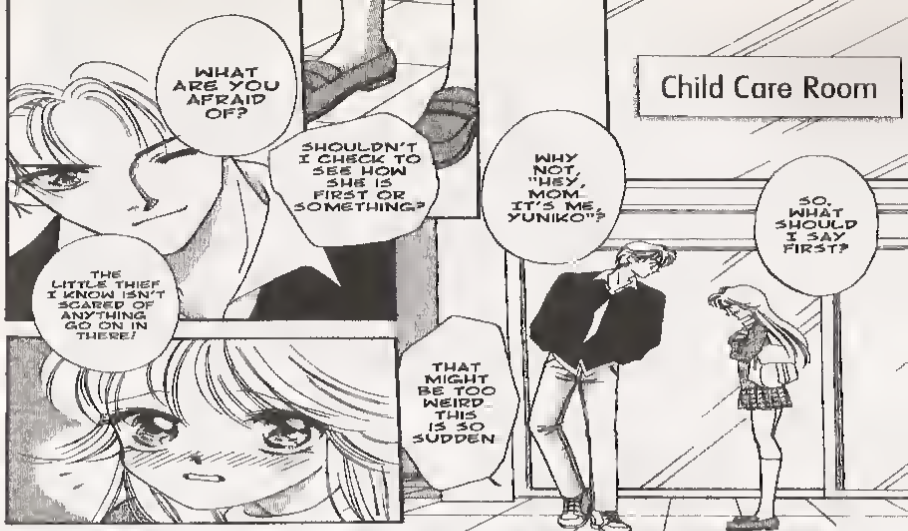
THIS IS THE PLACE!
MAN, WHAT A DRIVE!
THANKS SO MUCH, RYU! I'LL PAY FOR GAS ON THE WAY BACK!
ドッドッドッドッ
Hmm, then I bet she went after Ryu instead
She better not fall into his trap!
Hm? Where's Yuni?
Sanae, I already went to the hospital. -Yuniko
!!

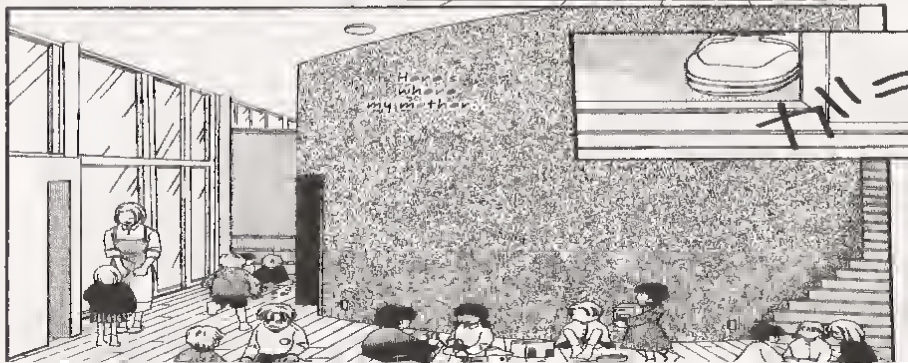
I HEARD YOU ..
WERE YOU NOT LISTENING AT ALL?!
HOP ON
YUNIKO.
!
!!
You! Who do you think you are?!
..BUT YOUR EYES TELL ME ALL I NEED TO KNOW.

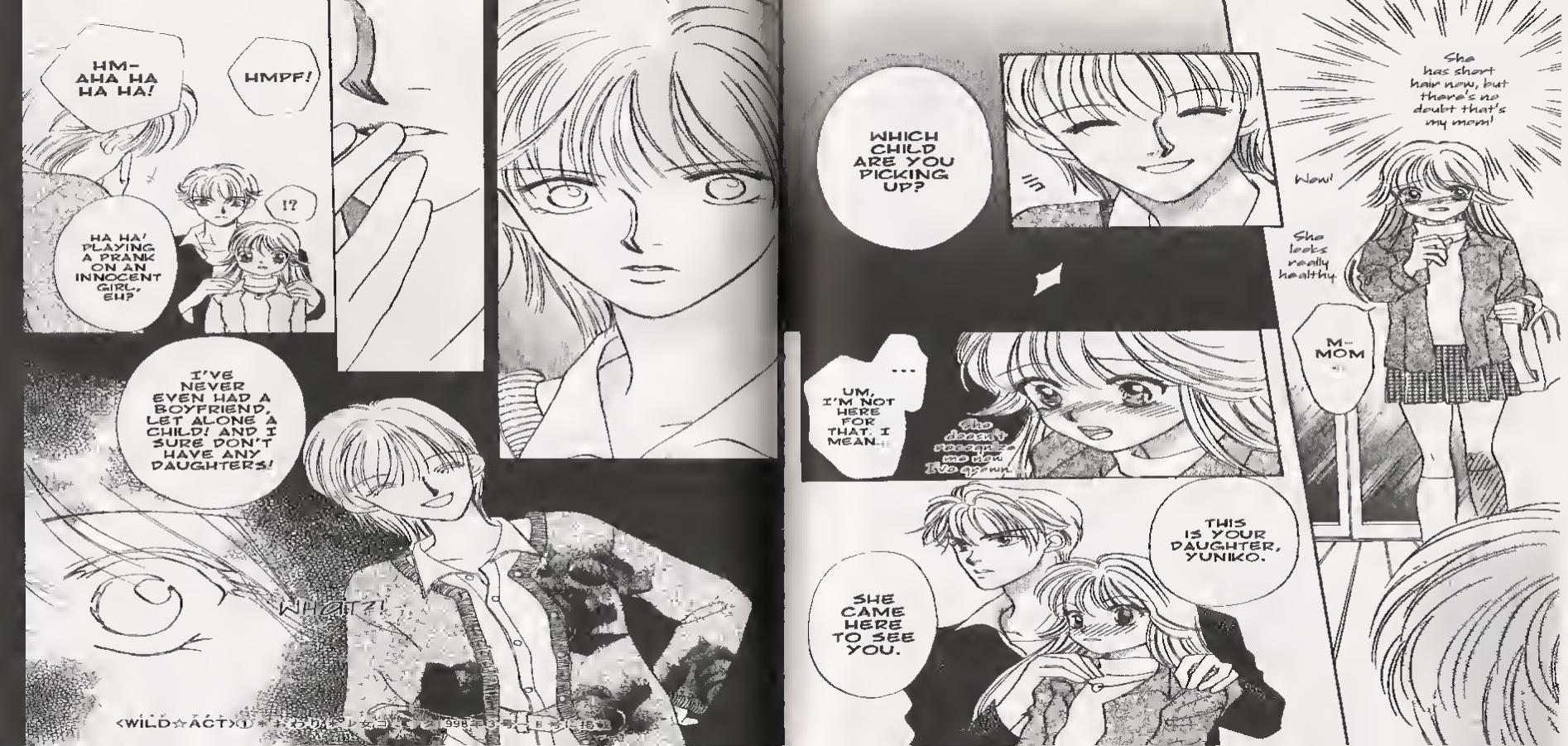

I've watched all my mother's movies. I know her face so well, but...
I wonder what kind of person she is.
Sanae told me to be ready for anything. I wonder if she's badly crippled or something.
Rehabilitation Center
MS. SAKURABA WOULD BE IN THE CHILD CARE ROOM RIGHT NOW.
I'm getting really nervous!
...AND ALSO WHY SANAE SAID YOU WERE IMPORTANT TO UA?
THAT EXPLAINS WHY YOUR FACE SEEMED KINDA FAMILIAR TO ME.
SO YOUR MOM GOT REALLY SICK, HUH?
TODAY'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER BEEN ABLE TO COME VISIT HER, SO I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER.
TODAY'S YOUR FIRST TIME?!!
BUT SOON, I'LL GET TO SEE HER.
YEAH, SHE'S BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER. IT MUST BE REALLY SERIOUS.


HEY, THAT GUY OVER THERE.
OH MY GOSH! IT'S RYU EBA!
SO YOUR MOTHER IS A PATIENT HERE?
NO ONE'S AS COOL AS YOU. NOT EVEN YOU, HUH.
NO WAY. HE'S JUST A PATIENT. RYU EBA IS WAY BETTER-LOOKING THAN THAT!
THE Maiko Sakura? The famous actress and supermodel?!
NO WAY! ARE YOU KIDDING?!
YOU'RE HER DAUGHTER?!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOUT!
OH, MS. SAKURABA IS IN THE REHABILITATION CENTER.
EXCUSE ME. I'M LOOKING FOR MAIKO SAKURABA.
?!
MAIKO SAKURABA?
HER STAGE NAME WAS MAIKO SAKURA. HAVE YOU HEARD OF HER?

...MOM!!
AND THEN THE BIG RED DEMON SAID, "GRROOAAR, I'M GONNA EAT YOU!"
OH...


Child Care Room
WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?
SHOULDN'T I CHECK TO SEE HOW SHE IS FIRST OR SOMETHING?
WHY NOT "HEY, MOM, IT'S ME, YUNIKO"?
SO, WHAT SHOULD I SAY FIRST?
THE LITTLE THIEF I KNOW ISN'T SCARED OF ANYTHING GO ON IN THERE!
THAT MIGHT BE TOO WEIRD THIS IS SO SUDDEN


Hanna where's my mom there


HM- AHA HA HA HA!
HMPF!
!?
HA HA! PLAYING A PRANK ON AN INNOCENT GIRL, EH?
I'VE NEVER EVEN HAD A BOYFRIEND, LET ALONE A CHILD! AND I SURE DON'T HAVE ANY DAUGHTERS!
WHAT?!
WHICH CHILD ARE YOU PICKING UP?
UM, I'M NOT HERE FOR THAT. I MEAN...
...
She doesn't recognize me now. I've aged...
SHE CAME HERE TO SEE YOU.
THIS IS YOUR DAUGHTER, YUNIKO.
She has short hair now, but there's no doubt that's my mom!
Wow!
She looks really healthy.
M- MOM

COMING SOON

VOLUME TWO

Yuniko discovers thot her mother hos omnesio ond doesn't remember her! Yuniko is devostoted, but she finds surprising comfort in Ryu's compony os their relotionship begins to chonge. When the school yeor storts, oll Yuniko wonts to do is stoy out of the spotlight ond lurk in the shodows so she con continue collecting Akiro's things. This is when her reol trouble begins, for on unscrupulous photogropher is plotting to frome Ryu in o big scondol. Only Yuniko con steol bock the evidence to sove him!

WILD ACT

1

Rie Takada

TOKYOPOP

Manga
Action/Romance
USA $9.99

WILD ACT

100% AUTHENTIC MANGA

Celebs Rule, Groupies Drool!

Yuniko is your typical 15-year-old girl—except she's obsessed with the late, great actor Akira Nanee. In fact, she'll go to any lengths to swipe anything that belonged to him. She breaks into dressing rooms, sets off fire alarms, and even employs robotic housekeepers to recover his lost possessions. The only person who stands between Yuniko and Nanee's coveted Academy Award statue is Ryu Eba, an up-and-coming actor who's known as the "New Nanee." He's on to Yuniko's schemes and takes great pleasure in placing road-blocks in her way. When Yuniko's with Ryu, tempers flare and sparks fly—but before long, her anger turns into what might be attraction. Surprise! But the real surprise comes when Ryu reunites Yuniko with her long-lost mother. This family reunion is nothing like anyone ever expected.

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